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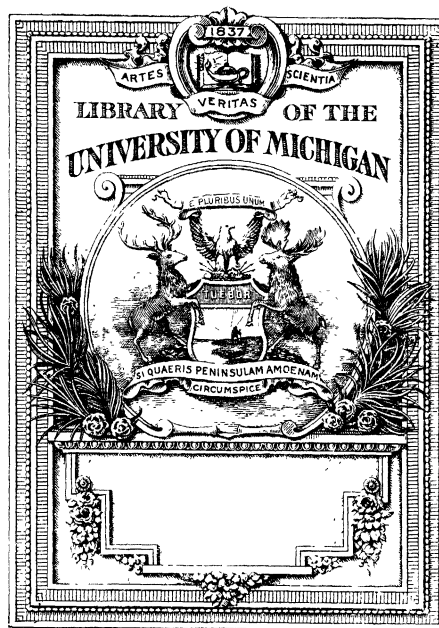
MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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COLLECTIONS

OF THE



MASSACHUSETTS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. IV.

OF THE FOURTH SERIES.

PUBLISHED AT THE CHARGE OF THE APPLETON FUND.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED FOR THE SOCIETY,
BY LITTLE, BROWN, AND COMPANY.
1858.

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COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION.

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, JR.
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 LORENZO SABINE.

THE
ACT OF INCORPORATION,
WITH THE ADDITIONAL ACTS,
AND
BY - L A W S
OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
AND A
LIST OF THE MEMBERS.

OCTOBER MEETING, 1857.—A Committee, consisting of Messrs. ROBBINS, HILLARD, LIVERMORE, CHANDLER, and DEANE, appointed to revise the By-Laws of the Society, reported the same in print this day. The Report, as presented, was accepted and adopted.

Attest: CHANDLER ROBBINS,

Recording Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-four.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WHEREAS the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility,—

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D. D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, D. D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, jun., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D. D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be, and hereby are, formed into and constituted a Society and body politic and corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a body politic and corporate, by that name forever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President, and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a body politic and corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member, who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and places for holding meetings; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by

gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same, or any part thereof, to alien and convey: *Provided*, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (except honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq., be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society; and that the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

[This Act passed Feb. 19, 1794.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-five.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

SECT. 1.—The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate, in addition to its Library, to an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

SECT. 2.—This Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

[This Act passed May 19, 1855.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-seven.

An Act in relation to the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

SECT. 1.—Nothing in the Act of Incorporation of the Massachusetts Historical Society shall prevent said Society from electing Associate or Corresponding Members residing without the limits of this Commonwealth, or Honorary Members residing either within or without said limits, or from having as many as one hundred Resident Members, at their discretion.

SECT. 2.—This Act shall take effect from and after its acceptance by said Society.

[This Act passed April 1, 1857.]

BY - L A W S .

CHAPTER I.

OF MEMBERS.

ARTICLE 1.—The Regular or Resident Members of the Society shall be elected from among the citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members whenever they cease to be citizens. The Associate or Corresponding Members shall be elected from among those persons who are not citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members if at any time they become citizens. Honorary members may be elected at large.

ART. 2.—A book shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, in which any Resident Member of the Society may enter the name of any person whom he may regard as suitable to be nominated as a Resident, Corresponding, or Honorary Member ; it being understood that each member is bound in honor not to make known abroad the name of any person so proposed. But no nomination of any member shall be made except by a report of the Standing Committee at a stated meeting, nor be acted upon at the same meeting to which it is reported ; nor shall more than two candidates for membership, of the same class, be reported at any one meeting.

ART. 3.—Nominations of Corresponding or Honorary Members shall be accompanied by a brief statement, in writing, of the place of residence and qualifications of the person nominated.

ART. 4.—All members shall be elected by ballot ; and, in balloting for members, the law and custom of our forefathers shall be observed, by taking the question with Indian corn and beans ; the corn expressing *yeas*, and the beans *nays*. But no person shall be deemed chosen, unless there be twenty members present at the election, nor unless three-fourths of all the members present shall have voted affirmatively.

ART. 5.—Each Resident Member shall pay ten dollars at the time of his admission, and five dollars annually afterwards, into the treasury of the Society, for its general purposes ; but any member shall be exempted from the annual payment, if, at any time after six months from his admission, he shall pay into the treasury sixty dollars in addition to what he may before have paid.

ART. 6.—If any person elected as a Resident Member shall neglect, for one year after being notified of his election, to pay his admission-fee, his election shall be void ; and, if any Resident Member shall neglect to pay his annual assessment for three years after it shall have become due and have been demanded, he shall cease to be a member. Each person who shall be elected a member shall, when notified of it, be furnished by the Corresponding Secretary with an attested copy of this Article and the preceding one ; and the Treasurer shall, as cases may occur, report to the Society those persons who have neglected to pay their admission-fee or their annual assessments, as above required.

ART. 7.—Diplomas signed by the President, and countersigned by the two Secretaries, shall be issued to all persons who have become members of the Society.

CHAPTER II.

OF MEETINGS.

ART. 1.—There shall be a Regular Meeting of the Society at noon, on the second Thursday of every month, at their rooms in Boston ; provided, however, that the Standing Committee shall have authority to postpone any such monthly meeting for not exceeding two weeks, or to direct it to be held at other rooms, whenever a day of public observance shall happen on the second Thursday of any month ; or whenever a different time or place shall, for any cause, be obviously for the convenience of the members. Special meetings shall be called by either of the Secretaries, whenever requested so to do by the President, or, in case of his absence or inability, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Standing Committee.

ART. 2.—At all meetings, the President shall take the chair in five minutes after the time appointed in the notification ; and the record of

the preceding meeting shall then be at once read. After which, at all Special Meetings, the special business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted ; and, at all Regular Meetings, the order of business shall be as follows :—

The Librarian shall make a detailed report of whatever may have been received by him since the last meeting.

The Cabinet-keeper shall make a similar report.

The Corresponding Secretary shall read any communications he may have received.

The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be announced by the Recording Secretary to the President, and taken up in their order.

The Standing Committee shall be called on to report its doings since the last meeting.

The other subsisting committees that may not have reported shall be called on for reports.

The members who have any business to propose shall be desired by the President to propose it.

The members generally shall then be invited, so far as time may permit, to make any oral communications on any subject having relation to the objects of the Society ; and, for the orderly accomplishment of this purpose, the Society shall be divided into three sections as nearly equal in numbers as may be, each of which sections, in regular sequence, shall be notified by the Recording Secretary, that the Society, at the next following meeting, will desire to receive from it such communications as are above suggested ; and the officer presiding at the next meeting shall call upon each of the members of such section, in his turn, to offer any such communication or propose any such subject ; after which, the communication so made, or the subject so proposed, may be discussed by the Society generally. Provided, however, that, if the member proposing such subject prefer to do it in writing, the Recording Secretary shall enter it in the Records of the Society ; and it may be discussed either at the time when it is proposed, or at any subsequent meeting.

ART. 3.—Fifteen members shall be a quorum for all purposes except the election of members, as hereinbefore provided ; and excepting, also, alterations of the By-laws, which shall not be made unless twenty persons are present, nor unless the subject has either been dis-

cussed at a previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for the purpose.

ART. 4.—At the request of any two members present, any subject proposed for discussion shall be once deferred to a subsequent meeting, before it is finally disposed of.

ART. 5.—All committees shall be nominated by the chair, unless otherwise provided for.

CHAPTER III.

OF OFFICERS.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, who shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Standing Committee; two Vice-Presidents; a Recording Secretary, who shall also be, *ex officio*, Secretary of the Standing Committee; a Corresponding Secretary; a Treasurer; a Librarian; a Cabinet-keeper; and a Standing Committee of five,—all of whom shall be chosen by ballot at the monthly meeting in April, and shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen in their stead. But, at the regular monthly meeting preceding any election of officers, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three persons, shall be appointed by the chair, who shall report to the meeting at which the election is to be made a list of members for the places to be filled; no person being deemed eligible to more than one of the regular offices of the Society at the same time, and no more than three of the Standing Committee being deemed re-eligible.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside in all meetings of the Society when present, and, when absent, one of the Vice-Presidents in the order of their names. In the absence of all these officers, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen by hand-vote.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1.—The Recording Secretary, or, in case of his death or absence, the Corresponding Secretary, shall warn all meetings of the Society, by causing to be sent, through the post-office, to all the Resident Members, notices of each meeting. Notices of the regular meetings shall be issued on the Monday preceding.

ART. 2.—He shall keep an exact record of all the meetings of the Society, with the names of the members present ; entering in full all reports of committees that may be accepted by the Society, unless otherwise specially directed.

See Chap. VIII., Art. 6.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE TREASURER.

ART. 1.—The Corresponding Secretary shall inform all persons of their election as members of the Society, sending notice of the terms of their election to those chosen to be Resident Members, and issuing afterwards the proper diplomas.

ART. 2.—He shall carry on all the correspondence of the Society not otherwise provided for ; and deposit copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, in regular files, in the Library.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE TREASURER.

ART. 1.—The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due to the Society, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the Society that may come into his hands, and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same,—which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the members ; and, at the regular

meeting in April, he shall make a written report of all his doings for the year preceding, and of the amount and condition of all the property of the Society intrusted to him. One week before the monthly meeting in April of each year, he shall give notice to every member of the annual assessment remaining due from him for every preceding year.

ART. 2.—He shall pay no moneys, except on vote of the Society, or on voucher of an officer or committee acting conformably to its laws or orders.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE LIBRARIAN, AND OF THE LIBRARY.

ART. 1.—The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library; and shall cause to be made and kept exact and perfect catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the collections under his care.

ART. 2.—He shall acknowledge each donation that may be made to the Library, by a certificate addressed to the person making it.

ART. 3.—He shall, at every monthly meeting of the Society, report all donations made to the Library since the last monthly meeting, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a statement of the condition and wants of the Library, with a notice of the important accessions that may have been made to it during the year.

ART. 4.—He shall cause to be kept a regular and exact account of all books taken out, with the names of the persons who take them, and the dates when they are borrowed and returned.

ART. 5.—He shall report in writing, at each monthly meeting, the name of every book that has been out of the Library for a longer term than is permitted by the By-laws, and shall use his discretion in obtaining the return of such books.

ART. 6.—There shall be an Assistant Librarian, not a member of the Society, appointed by the Standing Committee and the Librarian, who shall assist the Librarian in all or any of his duties; who shall

also aid the Recording Secretary in notifying meetings, copying reports, or in any other way that may be required, and who shall render such other services to the Society connected with its Library or its general proceedings as the Standing Committee may direct.

ART. 7.—The Librarian shall be present in the Library, in person or by his assistant, at the regular hours, and at such other times as may be appointed for keeping it open ; and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it.

ART. 8.—Any member of the Society may take from the Library three printed volumes at a time, and keep each of them four weeks, with a right to renew the loan for four weeks more, unless some other member has, in that interval, asked for it in writing ; but, if he retains it beyond this second period, he must first obtain the written assent of a member of the Standing Committee, permitting him to do so, or he shall be fined ten cents a week for each volume so retained.

ART. 9.—At the written request of any member of this Society, the Librarian shall permit any person to visit and use the Library, at such times as the Librarian may be in attendance ; such member becoming thereby responsible for any injury to the property of the Society that may result from such introduction of a stranger.

ART. 10.—At the written request of any member of the Society, the Librarian shall deliver to any one person indicated in such request, but to no more than one person at the same time, any book or books belonging to the Society, which the member himself could take out ; such member, by such request, making himself responsible that all the rules relating to the book or books so taken out shall be as fully observed by the person authorized to receive them, as if he were a member ; and that any injury accruing to the property of the Society, in consequence of the privilege thus granted, shall be made good by the member at whose request the grant is made.

ART. 11.—At the meetings in April, July, October, and January, the Librarian shall lay before the Society a list of the names of those persons, not members, who, during the preceding three months respectively, may have had access to the Library by permission of individual members of the Society, with the names of the members at whose request the privilege was granted ; adding a statement of each injury that may have been sustained by the property of the Society, in consequence of granting such permission, and the name of the member bound to make it good.

ART. 12.—The Publishing Committee, for the time being, shall be permitted to take such books and manuscripts from the Library as they may need, in order properly to perform the duty assigned to them by the Society ; but the Librarian shall make an especial entry or record of whatever is so taken, and, as soon as the volume they may have in charge is published, he shall demand and obtain from said Committee whatever they may have so received.

ART. 13.—All manuscripts of the Society shall be kept under lock and key, and be consulted or used only in presence of the Librarian or his Assistant.

ART. 14.—Persons not members of the Society, but engaged in historical pursuits, shall be allowed to consult the manuscripts belonging to the Society, provided an application in writing, stating the object or objects of the inquiry, be first made to the Librarian, and approved by a member of the Standing Committee, who shall make record of the same.

ART. 15.—No manuscript, and no part of a manuscript, belonging to the Society, shall be copied, except on permission granted by vote of the Society, after an application in writing, specifying the manuscript, or part thereof, desired to be copied ; and if any manuscript belonging to the Society shall, in consequence of such permission, be published, in whole or in part, the fact that it was obtained from the Society shall be stated in its publication. But nothing herein required shall be construed to prevent the publication of names, dates, and other chronological memoranda, without special permission obtained as above required.

ART. 16.—Manuscripts of a confidential nature shall be retained in a place of special deposit, and shall be consulted only under such regulations as may be prescribed in each case by vote of the Society.

ART. 17.—No maps, newspapers, or books, either of great rarity or of constant reference, shall be taken from the Library, except by vote of the Society.

ART. 18.—All members taking books from the Library shall be answerable for any injury done to the same, to such amount as may be deemed just by the Standing Committee ; and any person neglecting to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, one month after he shall have received notice of the same from the Librarian, or otherwise abusing his privilege to the injury of the Library, shall, by order of the Standing Committee, be interdicted from access to the same.

ART. 19.—All tracts, books, maps, and manuscripts belonging to the Society, shall be distinctly marked as its property; and any such tract, book, &c., that may be presented to the Society, shall be marked with the name of the donor, and recorded as his gift.

ART. 20.—The Library shall be open on all week-days, from nine o'clock in the forenoon to two in the afternoon, throughout the year, except on days of public observance, and also during the fortnight before the annual meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination; and all books that may be lent are hereby required to be returned previous to that fortnight, under a penalty of a fine of one dollar for each volume not so returned.

CHAPTER IX.

OF THE CABINET-KEEPER, AND THE MUSEUM.

ART. 1.—The Cabinet-keeper shall have charge of all coins, works of art, remains of antiquity, and other articles appropriate to the Society's Museum, and shall make and keep perfect and exact catalogues of the same.

ART. 2.—He shall acknowledge each donation he may receive, by letter, to the person making it. At every monthly meeting of the Society, he shall report whatever may have been added to the collection of which he has charge, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a full report of the condition of the Museum.

CHAPTER X.

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

ART. 1.—The Standing Committee, as vacancies may occur in the Society by death or otherwise, shall, at their discretion, report nominations for Resident Members to fill the same.

ART. 2.—They shall pay the current expenses of the Society, drawing on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

ART. 3.—They shall annually, in the month of April, make a careful examination of the Library and Museum of the Society, and also of the Dowse Library ; comparing the books, manuscripts, and other articles in each, with their catalogues, respectively, and reporting at the April meeting, in detail, concerning their condition.

ART. 4.—They shall record in full, in a book kept by them for the purpose, any permission granted by any one of their number for the consultation of the manuscripts of the Society, by persons not members.

ART. 5.—They shall meet in the Society's rooms one hour previous to every regular meeting, for the fulfillment of their appropriate duties, and for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of such business as will be brought before the Society.

ART. 6.—They shall, at every meeting, report to the Society all their doings since the last meeting, suggesting at the same time such business as they may deem advisable to bring before it.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Immediately after the publication of any volume of the Collections of the Society, or at any other time when the Society may order, a Committee of not less than three persons shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, whose duty it shall be to prepare and publish another volume ; for which purpose, free use is granted to them of all the manuscripts, printed books, and other resources of the Society, except the manuscripts deposited as confidential ; said Committee being required hereby to return whatever they may have thus received, so soon as their use of the same for the purposes of such publication shall have ceased.

In every publication that shall be made from the income of the APPLETON FUND, there shall be inserted in each volume a notice, in print, that it was made at the charge of that fund.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

At the monthly meeting in March, annually, a Committee shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, consisting of not less than two persons, whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts for the year preceding, and at the monthly meeting in April to report thereon, and on the state of any property of the Society in his hands.

CHAPTER XIII.

RULES FOR THE DOWSE LIBRARY.

ART. 1.—The room in which the books are deposited which were presented to the Society by Thomas Dowse shall be known for ever as the DOWSE LIBRARY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ART. 2.—No book shall be taken out of this room.

ART. 3.—Books may be used in the room by members of the Society, and by others introduced by them in person ; but no book shall be taken from the cases except by members, or by the Assistant Librarian, who shall cause each book to be returned to its proper place immediately after it has been used.

ART. 4.—Meetings of the Society may be held in the Dowse Library, at the discretion of the Standing Committee ; but the room shall not be used for any other meetings.

OFFICERS
OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
1857-8.

President.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL. D., of Boston.

Vice-Presidents.

JARED SPARKS, LL. D., of Cambridge.
HON. DAVID SEARS, A. M., of Boston.

Recording Secretary.

REV. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D. D., of Boston.

Corresponding Secretary.

JOSEPH WILLARD, A. M., of Boston.

Treasurer.

HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, JR., of Charlestown.

Librarian.

REV. SAMUEL K. LOTHROP, D. D., of Boston.

Cabinet-Keeper.

NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, M. D., of Boston.

Standing Committee.

WILLIAM BRIGHAM, A. B., of Boston.
FRANCIS PARKMAN, A. B., of Boston.
GEORGE LIVERMORE, A. M., of Cambridge.
THOMAS ASPINWALL, A. M., of Boston.

RESIDENT MEMBERS,

IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ELECTION.

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Hon. James Savage, LL. D.	Hon. David Sears, A. M.
Hon. Nathan Hale, LL. D.	Sylvester Judd, Esq.
Hon. Edward Everett, LL. D.	Thomas H. Webb, M. D.
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Rev. Alvan Lamson, D. D.	Cornelius C. Felton, LL. D.
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Rev. George E. Ellis, D. D.	Nathaniel I. Bowditch, A. M.
Hon. John C. Gray, LL. D.	George R. Russell, LL. D.
Rev. Nath'l L. Frothingham, D. D.	Hon. Charles H. Warren, A. M.
Hon. George S. Hillard, LL. D.	Rev. James Walker, D. D.
Hon. William Minot, A. M.	Rev. Edmund H. Sears, A. B.
Hon. Peleg W. Chandler, A. M.	Oliver Wendell Holmes, M. D.
Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	Hon. William H. Sumner, A. M.
Rev. Lucius R. Paige, A. M.	Henry W. Longfellow, A. M.
Hon. Solomon Lincoln, A. M.	Rev. Frederick H. Hedge, D. D.
Rev. Chandler Robbins, D. D.	Frederick Tudor, Esq.
Francis Bowen, A. M.	Jacob Bigelow, LL. D.
John Langdon Sibley, A. M.	Hon. George T. Davis, A. B.
Hon. Richard Frothingham, Jr.	Hon. Stephen Salisbury, A. M.
Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, M. D.	Henry A. Whitney, A. M.

HONORARY AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS,

ELECTED UNDER THE ORIGINAL ACT OF INCORPORATION, 1794.

IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ELECTION.

This List is believed to contain the names of all the Honorary and Corresponding Members now living.

Benjamin Silliman, LL. D.
Rev. Eliphalet Nott, D. D.
John Wakefield Francis, M. D.
Baron Alexander von Humboldt.
Hon. Gulian C. Verplanck, LL. D.
Robert Walsh, LL. D.
Frederic von Adelung.
Don Manuel Moreno, M. D.
Don José Maria Salazar.
Rev. John Hutchinson.
Charles Christian Rafn, P. D.
Thomas C. Halliburton, Esq.
Hon. Washington Irving, LL. D.
Charles Fraser, Esq.
Sir Francis Palgrave.
Hon. Lewis Cass, LL. D.
Theodore Dwight, A. M.
Hon. William Jay.
César Moreau.
Erastus Smith, Esq.
Hon. James Kirke Paulding.
Rev. Benjamin Tappan, D. D.
Joshua Francis Fisher, A. M.
T. A. Moerenbout.
Usher Parsons, M. D.
Hon. George Folsom, A. M.
Rev. Luther Halsey, D. D.

John Disney, Esq.
Rev. Francis Lister Hawks, D. D.
Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D.
Henri Ternaux-Compans.
George Catlin, Esq.
John Winthrop, Esq.
Constantine D. Schinas.
Joaquim José Da Costa de Macedo.
Hon. Daniel D. Barnard.
Frederic de Waldeck.
Israel K. Tefft, Esq.
Hon. David L. Swain, LL. D.
Hon. James M. Wayne, LL. D.
M. Hall McAllister, Esq.
Rev. William B. Stevens, D. D.
Henry Black, LL. D.
Rev. John Lee, D. D.
Rev. Charles Burroughs, D. D.
George Atkinson Ward, Esq.
Rev. Joseph Hunter, F. A. S.
Richard Almack, Esq.
Rev. George Oliver.
Sir Archibald Alison, Bt., D. C. L.
Col. James D. Graham.
Robert Lemon, Esq.
Thomas C. Grattan, Esq.
Don Pedro de Angelis.

John Romeyne Brodhead, A. M.	William Willis, Esq.
Major E. B. Jarvis.	Frederic Griffin, Esq.
Lord Braybrooke, D. C. L.	John Carter Browne, Esq.
E. George Squier, Esq.	Hon. Elijah Hayward.
Payne Kenyon Kilbourne.	William S. Southgate, Esq.
Miss Frances Manwaring Caulkins.	Hon. Samuel G. Arnold.
Thomas Donaldson, Esq.	Hon. Charles S. Davies.
Hon. George Bancroft, LL. D.	John Gilmary Shea, Esq.
Don Lucas Alaman.	James Lenox, Esq.
J. Hammond Trumbull, Esq.	Rt. Rev. Samuel Wilberforce, D. D.
Robert Bigsby, LL. D.	Winthrop Sargent, A. M.
Rev. Joseph Romilly, A. M.	Earl Stanhope.
James Ricker, Jr., Esq.	Hon. William C. Rives.
Henry Bond, M. D.	Peter Force, Esq.
Henry Stevens, Esq.	Hon. John R. Bartlett.
Cyrus Eaton, Esq.	Samuel Eliot, A. M.
Baron Macaulay, D. C. L.	G. P. Faribault, Esq.
Henry Hallam, LL. D.	William Paver, Esq.

HONORARY AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS,

ELECTED SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE ACT OF 1857.

<i>Honorary.</i>	<i>Corresponding.</i>
François Pierre Guill. Guizot, LL.D.	Rev. William B. Sprague, D. D.
Alexis De Tocqueville, LL. D.	Rev. Samuel Osgood, D. D.
Lord Lyndhurst.	William Durrant Cooper, F. S. A.
	E. B. O'Callaghan, M. D.
	Buckingham Smith, Esq.
	Benjamin F. French, Esq.
	Francis Lieber, LL. D.
	William H. Trescott, Esq.

CORRESPONDENCE,

IN 1774 AND 1775,

BETWEEN A COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF BOSTON AND
CONTRIBUTORS OF DONATIONS FOR THE RELIEF OF
THE SUFFERERS BY THE BOSTON PORT BILL.

[Among the archives of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY are two Letter Books ; one, containing copies of Letters addressed to the Committee appointed by the Town of Boston to receive and distribute the Donations contributed for the relief of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill ; and the other, containing the Replies to these Letters by the Committee. In some instances, no reply to the letters is recorded. This Correspondence is now, for the first time, printed. For convenience of reference, the letters of both volumes are arranged chronologically—the reply following the letter to which it is an answer. On a fly-leaf of one of these volumes, is the following memorandum : “ This Book contains copies of certain Letters directed to a Committee of the Town of Boston, appointed to receive and distribute such Donations as might be sent to them, for the Employment or Relief of such Tradesmen and others, Inhabitants of said Town, who might become sufferers for want of employment in their several occupations, by means of the unprecedented and cruel Edict of the British Parliament for shutting up the Harbor of Boston.”

The Boston Port Bill received the royal assent on the 31st of March, 1774, and went into effect on the first of June. The House of Representatives of Massachusetts, on the 17th of June, the day it was dissolved by Governor Gage, passed the following preamble and resolution :

“ Whereas the towns of Boston and Charlestown are at this time suffering under the hand of power, by the shutting up the harbor by an armed force, which in the opinion of this house is an invasion of the said towns, evidently designed to compel the inhabitants thereof to a submission to taxes imposed upon them without their consent : And whereas it appears to this house that this attack upon the said towns for the purpose aforesaid is an attack made upon this whole Province and Continent, which threatens the total destruction of the liberties of all British America :

“ It is therefore *Resolved*, as the clear opinion of this House, That the inhabitants of the said towns ought to be relieved ; and this House do recommend to all, and more especially to the inhabitants of this Province, to afford them speedy and constant relief, in such way and manner as shall be most suitable

to their circumstances, till the sense and advice of our sister colonies shall be known : In full confidence that they will exhibit examples of patience, fortitude and perseverance, while they are thus called to endure this oppression for the preservation of the liberties of their country."

Subsequently, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress took measures to promote contributions ; and, on the 17th of September, the Continental Congress "*Resolved, unanimously*, That contributions from all the Colonies, for supplying the necessities and alleviating the distresses of our brethren at Boston, ought to be continued, in such manner, and so long, as their occasions may require."

The following extracts from the Boston Town Records, of 1774, will show the action of the town in relation to the appointment of the Donation Committee and the reception of the contributions.

" On the 13th of May, moved and voted, *nem. con.*, that Mr. Samuel Adams, John Rowe, Esq., Thomas Boylston, Esq., William Phillips, Esq., Dr. Joseph Warren, John Adams, Esq., Josiah Quincy, Esq., the Hon. Thomas Cushing, Esq., Mr. Henderson Inches, Mr. William Molineux, Mr. Nathaniel Appleton, be and hereby are appointed a committee to take the several proposals that have been made, and others that may be made, relative to our conduct on the present exigency, into their consideration, and report as soon as may be their opinion."

On the 17th of June, it was voted : " Whereas the Overseers of the Poor, in the Town of Boston, are a body politic by law, constituted for the receipt and distribution of all charitable donations for the use of the poor of said town,

" *Voted*, That all grants and donations to this town and the poor thereof, at this distressed season, be paid and delivered into the hands of the Overseers, and by them appropriated and distributed, in concert with the Committee lately appointed by this town, for the consideration of the ways and means of employing the poor."

On the 19th of July, the Overseers of the Poor, " for reasons offered by them, did desire to be discharged from further services touching the receiving and distributing donations, when it was, *Voted*, That Capt. Fortesque Vernon, Captain Edward Proctor, Mr. John White, Mr. Gibbens Sharp, Capt. William Mackay, Mr. Thomas Greenough, Capt. Samuel Partridge, Benjamin Austin, Esq., Mr. Jonathan Mason, Mr. John Brown, Mr. James Richardson, Mr. Thomas Crafts, Jr., Mr. Henry Hill, Mr. Joshua Henshaw, Jr., be added to the first-named committee ;" i. e. the committee chosen May 13.

On the 26th of July is the following vote : "*Voted*, That the gentlemen whose names are after mentioned, viz., Mr. Samuel Adams, John Rowe, Esq., Mr. Thomas Boylston, William Phillips, Esq., Dr. Joseph Warren, John Adams, Esq., Josiah Quincy, Esq., Thomas Cushing, Esq., Mr. Henderson Inches, Mr. William Molineux, Mr. Nathan Appleton, Capt. Fortesque Vernon, Capt. Edward Proctor, Mr. John White, Mr. Gibbens Sharp, Capt. William Mackay, Mr. Thomas Greenough, Capt. Samuel Partridge, Benjamin Austin, Esq., Mr. Jonathan Mason, Mr. John Brown, Mr. James Richardson, Mr. Thomas Crafts, Jr., Mr. Henry Hill, Mr. Joshua Henshaw, Jr., Mr. David Jeffries, be, and hereby are appointed the committee to receive all donations that have been, or may be made for the employment or relief of such inhabitants of this town as may be sufferers for want of employment in their several occupations, by means of the act of the British Parliament for shutting up the harbor of Boston, and to appropriate, improve, or distribute

the same for the purpose aforesaid, according to their best discretion ; the said committee to be accountable to the town."

On the 9th of August is the following record : " The committee on ways and means for employing the poor, and receiving and applying the donations that have and may be made them, at this distressing season, reported verbally, ' That it was in their opinion, that the poor of our sister town of Charlestown, were suffering with us, under the operation of the Boston Port Bill, ought to share with our poor in those donations.' Upon which it was moved, and the question was accordingly put, ' Whether our sister town of Charlestown is equitably entitled to a certain part of the donations that are and may be received for the employment and relief of such persons as are sufferers by the operation of the Boston Port Bill,' which passed in the affirmative unanimously. Also moved, that whereas the town of Charlestown have had encouragement from the committee on ways and means, that they were to receive seven per cent. out of the donations mentioned above, said committee may now accordingly be directed to apply for their relief out of said donations, in the proportion of seven per cent. And the question being put, passed in the affirmative."

On the 25th of October, " On a motion made, that ten persons be added to the committee of ways and means for employing the poor sufferers by the operation of the Boston Port Bill, so called, *Voted*, That Mr. Daniel Waldo, Mr. William Whitwell, Capt. John Pulling, Mr. Peter Boyer, Mr. Samuel May, Mr. John Avery, Jr., Mr. William Boardman, Mr. John Soley, Capt. Nehemiah Soames, Mr. John Preston, be, and hereby are added to the committee on ways and means for employing the poor."

Samuel Adams signs his name as chairman of the Donation Committee, in its official letters ; and it is stated that the Town Treasurer, David Jeffries, was its Treasurer. The replies to the letters from abroad were evidently from different pens. In the Boston archives may be found much matter relative to the proceedings of this committee.

The town records, under the date of the 7th of December, 1774, read : " On a motion made, *Voted*, That a committee be appointed to draught a vote of thanks of the Town of Boston expressive of their gratitude for the benevolent assistance which they have received from the other Colonies, during their present calamities, and particularly for [the] generous recommendation of the respectable Continental Congress for farther support from their sister Colonies, during their unhappy struggles, under the arbitrary and oppressive measures of the present British administration.

" *Voted*, That Jonathan Williams, Esq., Moderator, the Hon. James Otis, Esq., Dr. Benjamin Church, Dr. Joseph Warren, Mr. John Pitts, Joseph Greenleaf, Esq., Mr. William Cooper, be a committee to prepare said report, and report the same at the adjournment."

On the 30th of December is the following record : " The following vote, expressive of the gratitude of the town for the benevolent assistance received from the other Colonies under our present calamities, and the kind recommendation of the late respectable Continental Congress for future support, passed *nem. con.*

" Whereas the Town of Boston is befortunately become the most striking monument of ministerial tyranny and barbarity, as is particularly exhibited in the sudden shutting up this port, thereby cruelly depriving the inhabitants of this metropolis of the means they have hitherto used to support their families ;

and whereas our brethren in the other Colonies, well knowing that we are suffering in the common cause of America and of mankind, have, from a generous and brotherly disposition, contributed largely towards our support in this time of our general distress (without which many of our worthy and virtuous citizens must have been in imminent danger of perishing with cold and hunger) :

“ And whereas the honorable members of the Continental Congress have kindly recommended us to our sister Colonies, as worthy of farther support from them, while the iron hand of unremitting oppression lies heavy upon us. Therefore

“ *Voted*, That this Town, truly sensible of the generous assistance they have received from their sympathizing brethren, return them their earnest and most sincere thanks for the same. And they pray that God, whose beneficence they so gloriously imitate, may bestow upon them the blessings he has promised to all them, who feed the hungry and clothe the naked : And the thanks of this Town are accordingly hereby given to our benefactors aforementioned, and to the honorable members of the Congress, for their benevolence towards us, expressed as aforesaid, which support, if continued, cannot fail of animating us to remain steadfast in defending the rights of America.”

The ninth volume of the second series of these Collections contains a List of the Donations received in 1775, from January 30 to April 17. It was printed from manuscript, and as it goes no further back than January, 1775, of course it is incomplete. Before this date, the Boston journals regularly acknowledged the receipt of the donations ; and though the list referred to, specifies the same contributors which the journals name during the corresponding period, yet, in many cases, the specification in the journals is more full than it is in the list.—R. F., JR.]

LETTER FROM WINDHAM.¹

Windham, Connecticut, 28th June, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

’Tis with pity, mixed with indignation, that we have beheld the cruel and unmanly attacks made by the British Parliament on the loyal and patriotic Town of Boston, who seem destined to feel the force of ministerial wrath, the whole weight of parliamentary vengeance levelled at them in a manner so replete with cruelty and injustice, as must strike every heart with horror, and fill every breast with

¹ The only letter addressed to the Donation Committee which appears in the contemporary journals, is that of the town of Windham. The Boston Gazette, of July 18, 1774, contains the following letter, bearing on the contributions,

rage, that is not entirely void of every sentiment of honor and justice, and callous to all the common feelings of humanity. But when we consider the cause of all these calamities, that it is nothing less, on your part, than a strict adherence to the fundamental principles of the Constitution,

addressed, probably, to the Committee of Correspondence. The Gazette says: "The Boston Committee have received the following spirited letter from the Committee of Correspondence of the respectable town of Glastenbury, in the patriotic colony of Connecticut."—ED.

Glastenbury, in Connecticut, June 23, 1774.

GENTLEMEN:

We cannot but heartily sympathize with you under the gloomy prospects which at present are before you, upon account of those oppressive Acts of Parliament which have lately been passed, respecting Boston in particular, and the Province of Massachusetts Bay in general. Especially when we consider that our liberties and privileges are so nearly and indissolubly connected with yours, that an encroachment upon one, at least, destroys all the security of the other. It seems the Parliament of Great Britain are determined to reduce America to a state of vassalage, and, unless we all unite in the common cause, they will undoubtedly accomplish their design. We are much surprised to find so many of the merchants in Boston courting favor of the tools of the ministry, and heaping encomiums on that enemy to liberty, that traitor to his country, and abettor, if not author, of all these evils to America. However, we hope the spirit of liberty is not entirely fled from Boston, but that you will yet hold out, and to the last resist and oppose those who are striving to enslave America. You may depend on us, and we believe all Connecticut, almost to a man, to stand by you and assist you in the defence of our invaluable rights and privileges, even to the sacrificing of our lives and fortunes in so good a cause. You will see the determinations and resolves of this town, which we have inclosed. A subscription is set on foot for the relief of the poor in Boston, and what money or provisions shall be collected, we shall forward as soon as possible. We are informed that your House of Representatives have appointed a time for the meeting of the general Congress, in which we hope all the Colonies will concur, and that a non-importation and non-exportation agreement, will be immediately come into, which we doubt not will procure the desired effect. And notwithstanding the gloomy aspect of things at present, we cannot but look forward, with fond hopes and pleasing expectations, to that glorious era, when America, in spite of all the efforts of her enemies to the contrary, shall rise superior to all opposition, overcome oppression, be a refuge for the oppressed, a nurse of liberty, a scourge to tyranny, and the envy of the world.

Then (if you stand firm and unshaken amidst this storm of ministerial vengeance) shall it be told to your everlasting honor, that Boston stood foremost in the cause of liberty, when the greatest power on earth was striving to divest them of it; and by their noble efforts, joined with the united virtue of her sister Colonies, they overcame, and thereby have transmitted to posterity those invaluable rights and privileges, which their forefathers purchased with their blood.

And now, Gentlemen, relying on your steadiness and firmness in the common cause, we subscribe, your most obedient, humble servants,

ELIZUR TALCOTT,	} Committee.
WILLIAM WILLIAMS,	
EBEN'R PLUMMER,	
ISAAC MOSELEY,	
JOSIAH HALE,	

which, when attacked, you dared openly to assert and vindicate, and stand foremost in the glorious cause of Liberty, in which you are contending not only for your own, but ours and the common rights of every American. When we reflect that it is this for which you are suffering such horrid cruelties, for which your streets have been stained with blood, and for which you now feel the horrors of a military government, we [are] overwhelmed with a conflict of tumultuous passions, and filled with that manly ardor which bids us join you hand in hand, and suffer with you in the common cause; nay, even, if the sad exigence of affairs should ever require it, to determine, in defence of every thing for which life is worth enjoying, to meet that death which will be glorious, and infinitely preferable to a life dragged on in that low, servile state, which is evidently planned for us, and which nothing less than the most heroic fortitude, and the highest exertions of every civil and Christian virtue can prevent. Give us leave, therefore, Gentlemen, to entreat, to beg, to conjure you, by every thing that is dear, by every thing that is sacred, by the venerable names of our pious forefathers, who suffered, who bled in the defence of Liberty, not to desert the cause at this trying crisis, but to use your utmost influence in pursuing and persevering in every measure, which may have a tendency to produce the desired effect.

Gentlemen, we hereby assure you that, to the utmost of our power, we will assist you in every measure necessary for the common safety, not regarding our own private views and interests, when in competition with the public good.

This Town is very sensible of the obligations we, and with us, all British America, are under to the Town of Boston, who have been, and still are, the generous defenders of our common rights and liberties. We know you suffer, and feel for you. As a testimony of our commiseration of your misfortunes, the Town, on the 23d instant, at a legal and very full meeting, unanimously chose a Committee to procure subscriptions for your present relief. Accordingly, we have procured a small flock of sheep, which at this season are not so good as we could wish, but are the best we had, and the people of this Town were almost unanimous in contributing to this purpose.

This small present, Gentlemen, we beg you would accept, and apply to the relief of those honest, industrious poor, who are most distressed by the late arbitrary and oppressive Acts. And rest assured that if Parliament does not soon afford you relief, and there should in future be any need of our assistance, we shall, with the utmost cheerfulness, exert our influence to that purpose.

We are, Gentlemen, with great respect,
Your most obedient and very humble servants,

SAMUEL GRAY,	} Committee of Correspondence.
NATHANIEL WALES, JR.,	
EBENEZER DEVOTION,	
EBENEZER MOSELY,	
HEZEKIAH BISSELL,	
JOSEPH GENINGS,	
WILLIAM DURKEE,	
JOHN HOWARD,	
HEZEKIAH MANNING,	

N. B. We have inclosed herewith a copy of the doings of the Town for your amusement, which may serve for a specimen of our sentiments.

*To the Selectmen of the Town of Boston.*¹



LETTER FROM GROTON.

Groton, June 28th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The inhabitants of the Town of Groton, in general, are deeply affected with a sense of our public calamities, and more especially the distresses of our brethren in the Capital of the Province, as we esteem the act of blocking up the harbor of Boston replete with injustice and cruelty, and evidently designed to compel the inhabitants thereof to submission of taxes imposed upon them without their consent, and threatens the total destruction of the liberties of all British America. We ardently desire a happy union with Great Britain and the Colonies, and shall gladly adopt

¹ This letter was printed in the journals; but no reply to it is recorded. The Boston Gazette, of July 4, says: "Last week were driven to the neighboring town of Roxbury, two hundred and fifty-eight sheep, a generous contribution of

every measure consistent with the dignity and safety of British subjects for that purpose.

In full confidence that the inhabitants of the Town of Boston will, in general, exhibit examples of patience, fortitude and perseverance, while they are called to endure this oppression for the preservation of the liberties of their country, and in token of our willingness to afford all suitable relief to them in our power, a number of the inhabitants of this Town have subscribed, and this day sent forty bushels of grain, part rye and part Indian corn, to be delivered to the Overseers of the Poor of said Town of Boston, not doubting but the same will be suitably applied for that purpose; and we earnestly desire you will use your utmost endeavor to prevent and avoid all mobs, riots, and tumults, and the insulting of private persons and property. And while the farmers are cheerfully resigning part of their substance for your relief, we trust the merchants will not oppress them by raising upon the goods which they have now on hand and heretofore purchased. And may God prosper every undertaking which tends to the salvation of the people.

We are, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen. In the name and by order of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Groton.

OLIVER PRESCOTT, *Clerk.*

To the Overseers of the Town of Boston.

our sympathizing brethren of the town of Windham, in the colony of Connecticut; to be distributed for the employment or relief of those who may be sufferers by means of the act of Parliament called the Boston Port Bill."

The town acknowledged this contribution by a special vote, passed July 4, in the following terms: "Upon a motion made and seconded, *Voted, unanimously*, That the thanks of the town be, and hereby are given to our worthy friends, the inhabitants of the town of Windham, in the colony of Connecticut, for the kind and generous assistance they have granted this town, under its present distress and calamity, in voluntarily sending two hundred and fifty-eight sheep, as a present for the relief of the poor, industrious inhabitants of this place, who, by a late oppressive and cruel act of Parliament for blocking up the harbor of Boston, are prevented getting subsistence for themselves and families.

"*Voted*, That the Town Clerk be directed to transmit an attested copy of the above vote of thanks to the town of Windham."

The Boston Gazette, of the 11th of July, says: "The tories give out that the present of sheep sent from the generous town of Windham, came only in consequence of money sent to bring them. How weak, how false, how little and how low!"—ED.

REPLY TO GROTON.¹

Boston, July 5th, 1774.

SIR,

Your obliging letter directed to the Overseers of the Poor of this Town, together with a generous present from a number of the inhabitants of the Town of Groton, for the relief of such inhabitants of this Town as may be sufferers by the Port Bill, is come to hand. In behalf of the Committee of this Town, appointed for the reception of such kind donations, I am now to return to you and the rest of our benefactors the most sincere thanks. The gentlemen may be assured their donations will be applied to the purpose they intend. We are much obliged to you for the wise cautions given in your letter, and we shall use our best endeavors that the inhabitants of this Town may endure their sufferings with dignity, that the glorious cause for which they suffer may not be reproached. We trust

¹ Before the Port Bill went into effect, letters containing assurances of sympathy and support from other Colonies were printed in the Boston journals. The Boston Gazette of May 23, 1774, contains letters from New-York, Westerly, and Portsmouth, and the proceedings of a legal town meeting held in Newport, all expressing the determination to consider "the attack upon the town of Boston," "not as an attempt made on that town singly, but upon the whole continent." The Gazette of this date has the following article: "We cannot but gratefully acknowledge the generous and brotherly interposition of our brethren of the other Colonies on the present desperate attack of the British Parliament on the Town of Boston. Among our warmest friends we are happy to enumerate the respectable inhabitants of the towns of New-York, Hartford, Newport, Portsmouth and Westerly, who have thus early assured us of their readiness to unite in every measure of self-denial and hazard to extricate themselves as well as us from impending slavery."

The Gazette announced the commencement of the operation of the Port Bill, on the 6th of June, in the following terms: "Tell it in Gath, publish it in Askelon, that the Boston Port Bill, in all its parts, is now carrying into execution, and that Boston is thereby got into greater distress, and is more insulted by an English armament than she ever was by a French or Spanish fleet in the hottest war, when left without one British ship for her protection. The town is become a spectacle to angels and men. God grant that it may not be intimidated by the present horrors to make a surrender of the rights of America; or in any respect to dishonor herself at this day of trial or perplexity."

The Gazette, on the 7th of July, thus describes public sentiment after the Port Bill had been one month in force. "There is not a town of any consequence, on the continent of North America, but is justly alarmed with the proceedings of the British Parliament, and are taking necessary steps to strengthen the Union of the Colonies, and thereby defeat the cruel designs of arbitrary power."—ED.

that the non-consumption agreement, which we hear is making progress in the country, will put it out of the power of any of the merchants to take unreasonable advantage of raising the prices of their goods. You will, however, remember, that many heavy articles, such as nails, &c., will be attended with considerable charge in transporting them from Salem. As the bearer is in haste, I must conclude, with great regard for your Committee of Correspondence and the inhabitants of the Town of Groton.

Sir, your friend and fellow-countryman,

Signed by order of the Overseers of the Poor,

SAM. PARTRIDGE.

*To the Committee of the Town of Groton,
in Connecticut. [Mass.]*



LETTER FROM WRENTHAM.

Wrentham, July 4th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Filled with the sense of the sad alternative of being reduced to the precarious tenor of the will of others, rouses our attention and awakens every faculty—shocked with those master strokes of politics which mark with infamy the present era, the pillars of the Constitution struck asunder, and the whole body politic all in convulsion, which call for the aid and assistance of every individual—this Province in particular, and the devoted Town of Boston in special, is the first mark of ministerial vengeance.

Permit [us] then, Gentlemen, to assure you we feel the heavy hand of power, and claim a share in your sufferings. We then, a small number of the inhabitants of this Town, being sensible of the difficulties so sudden a stop of all trade must reduce a number of families in your Town, beg leave thus early to offer you our mite towards relieving our more immediate suffering brethren amongst you. We therefore send you, by the bearer, Mr. Ezra Ware, one load of grain, to be disposed of, for the purpose aforesaid, as

you in your wisdom and prudence shall judge meet, which please to accept as a mark of our sincere regard and entire approbation of the peaceable measures begun and going on in this and the other Colonies, for our relief. We assure you we look on your burthens, ours, and shall at all times be ready, both in public and private, (according to our ability,) to give you every assistance to preserve our civil and religious privileges.

We are, Gentlemen, with truth and regard, your assured friends and fellow-sufferers in one common cause.

LEMUEL KOLLOCK, } in the name and be-
half of the Donors.

*To the Overseers of the Poor of the Town
of Boston and the additional Committee.*

19 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels rye,
11 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels corn,

31 bushels.

REPLY TO WRENTHAM.

Boston, July 5th, 1774.

SIR,

We have to acknowledge your favor of the 4th instant. We are obliged to you for your kind expressions of sympathy and concern for us under our present difficulty. We are truly in distress, and suffering under the heavy hand of power; and as patience, fortitude and perseverance, while we are enduring this oppression for the preservation of the rights of America, seem to be expected from us by our brethren in the country, you must be sensible great numbers of our people must, for want of employ during this conflict, be reduced to the utmost distress, unless they are relieved from the country. We are glad to find you are of this opinion, and kindly thank you for the load of grain you have sent by Mr. Ezra Ware, for the relief of those who are more immediately suffering by the oppression of the Boston Port Bill.

Signed by order of the Overseers of the Poor.

SAM. PARTRIDGE.

To Mr. Sam. [Lem.?] Kollock, at Wrentham.

LETTER FROM PEPPERELL.

Pepperell, July 4th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We received the proceedings of Boston the 17th of June, with your inclosed covenant, which very near the whole of our District have signed, and we are of opinion that we have not a man but will sign. We herewith send you the proceedings of Pepperell, at their late meeting. We have collected forty bushels of grain, which you may depend will soon be conveyed to the Overseers of your poor, [and] desire you would stand firm in the common cause. Depend on it, we will further assist you with provision and men, if needful.

We are, Gentlemen, your sympathizing, humble servants.
By order of the Committee of Correspondence.

WM. PRESCOTT.

To the Committee of Correspondence in Boston.

LETTER FROM CHARLEMONT.

Charlemont, July 9th, 1774.

SIRS,

The inhabitants of Charlemont have considered the deplorable situation of the poor people of your Town, and like the poor widow, cast in their mite. They committed to me two barrels flour, to be sent to you for the relief [of] the poor, which I have sent by the bearer, desiring you would receive it for that purpose, and please to signify that you have received it, and you will oblige your friend and servant,

AARON RICE.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO CHARLEMONT.¹

Boston, 20th July, 1774.

SIR,

I received your favor of the 19th instant, advising that you had sent two barrels of flour for the relief of such poor people as do suffer by the shutting up of this Port, which flour I have received, and it shall be applied accordingly. The distresses of this Town begin to come on, and I do expect them to be great, but we are not intimidated, nor shall we give up any of our liberties, although we are surrounded by fleets and armies. Our committee to employ the poor are not together, of which I am one, as well as one of the Overseers of the Poor, so do, in the name of both, return you thanks for your kind donation, and am,

Gentlemen, your very humble servant,

SAM. PARTRIDGE.

To Mr. Aaron Rice, Charlemont.



LETTER FROM FARMINGTON.

Farmington, July 25th, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

This serves to inform you, that for present relief of the poor in Boston, we have shipped, per Captain Israel

¹ The Boston Gazette, of July 18, 1774, has the following paragraphs :

This is now the forty-eighth day since the siege of Boston began ; and notwithstanding our accumulating distresses, the inhabitants continue to exhibit that calm firmness and unanimity, which astonishes our enemies.

The inhabitants of this town are greatly supported under the weight of ministerial vengeance, by the kind sympathy, and generous donations of our brethren and friends, through the Province and Continent. It indeed seems as if their prophecy would soon be verified in Boston's becoming the granary of North America. May the behavior of its inhabitants continue to deserve their praise and bounty. A whole Continent is now awake and active ; one spirit actuates the whole ; and all unite in prayers to the Supreme Disposer of events, that the liberties of America may yet be preserved. Last Thursday was a solemn day in this Town ; the shops and streets empty, and the churches full. May the day be followed with true repentance and amendment of life, and all the ills we suffer now, like scattered clouds, shall pass away.—ED.

Williams, between three and four hundred bushels of rye and Indian corn, which we have ordered to be delivered to yourself, as per advice of Mr. Cooper in his letter to us, which we wish safe to hand, and to satisfaction ; and would also further inform, that we have the subscription still open, and expect, after harvest, to ship you a much larger quantity. As our people are open and generous, firm, steady, and resolute in the common cause of Liberty, hope the people of Boston remain firm and steady. An answer would be extreme[ly] agreeable.

With esteem, Sir, I remain your most obedient, humble servant. Per order and in behalf of the Committee.

FISHER GAY.

To John Barrett, Esq., Merchant in Boston.

REPLY TO FARMINGTON.

Boston, July 29th, 1774.

SIR,

I am desired by the Committee of the Town of Boston, appointed to receive the Donations made by our sympathizing brethren, for the employment or relief of such inhabitants of this Town as are more immediate sufferers by the cruel act of Parliament for shutting up this harbor, to acquaint you that our friend, Mr. Barrett, has communicated to them your letter of the 25th instant, advising that you have shipped, per Captain Israel Williams, between three and four hundred bushels of rye and Indian corn for the above mentioned purpose, and that you have the subscriptions still open, and expect after harvest to ship a much larger quantity. Mr. Barrett tells us, that upon the arrival of Captain Williams, he will endorse his bill of lading or receipt to us.

The Committee have a very grateful sense of the generosity of their friends in Farmington, who may depend upon their donations being applied agreeable to their benevolent intention, as it is a great satisfaction to the Committee to find the Continent so united in opinion. The Town of

Boston is now suffering for the common liberties of America, and while they are aided and supported by their friends, I am persuaded they will struggle through the conflict, firm and steady.

I am, with very great regard, Gentlemen,
Your friend and countryman,

SAMUEL ADAMS.

*To Fisher Gay, Esq., and the rest of the
Committee in Farmington, Connecticut.*

Boston, August 4th, 1774.

SIR,

Your favor of 25th July., directed to John Barrett, Esq., has been laid before the Committee to receive and distribute Donations, and has been answered, July 29th, which [we] trust you will duly receive. Since which Capt. Williams has arrived and delivered to the Committee's Treasurer, one hundred and sixteen and half bushels of rye, and one hundred and ninety bushels of Indian corn, as a donation from our generous, patriotic friends in Farmington. This Committee, in the name of the Town, return you and our other friends their most grateful acknowledgments, and assure [you we] shall do our utmost to distribute it, agreeable to the benevolent intentions of the contributors. As Capt. Williams brought us no letter, nor had any particular directions about the freight of the grain, the Committee immediately agreed to pay the same, and offered it to Capt. Williams, but he chose rather to suspend the receiving of it until further day. You may be assured that the friends of Liberty and a righteous government are firm and steady to the common cause of American rights. We are in hopes to keep our poor from murmuring, and that, by the blessing of Heaven, we shall shortly be confirmed in that freedom for which our ancestors entered the wilds of America.

With the greatest respect we are, Sir, your friends and fellow-countrymen. By order of the Committee appointed

to receive Donations for the employment or relief of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill.

SAM. ADAMS, *Chairman.*

To Fisher Gay, Esq., Farmington.



LETTER FROM WETHERSFIELD.¹

Wethersfield, 25th July, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We being sometime since, at a Town Meeting held in this place, appointed a Committee to take in a subscription for the Town of Boston; and having the most tender sympathy with the inhabitants of your worthy and very respect-

¹ The Colony of Connecticut, by its Legislature, recommended three times a general subscription for the relief of the poor of Boston. The public sympathy is indicated in the following paragraph from the Boston Gazette of June 20:

"The first of June, when the Boston Port Bill took place, was observed by the inhabitants of Hartford, in Connecticut, as a day of mourning. The bells began to toll early in the morning, and continued till evening; the town house was hung with black, and the Edict affixed thereto; the shops were all shut, and their windows covered with black, and other ensigns of distress."

The Connecticut Committee of Correspondence, in a letter dated Hartford, June 3, 1774, addressed to the Boston Committee of Correspondence, say:—"The situation of the Town of Boston, particularly of the poor, and such as must now be deprived of employ, and reduced to straits, was considered by both Houses of Assembly, and a resolution come into to contribute to their relief, which passed both Houses."—*Force's Archives*, vol. i. 305. A letter in the Essex Gazette of June 14, states that the Assembly voted to raise contributions in the several religious congregations. The same journal, of August 16, has a letter dated Hartford, July 26, which reads:—"The Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Hartford, met yesterday, and opened subscriptions according to the direction of the inhabitants at their late meeting, for the relief of the industrious poor of the Town of Boston, and it is not in the least doubted but that it will meet with very general encouragement." The Gazette of September 27, under the head of Boston, September 26, has the following:—"We hear the Town of Hartford in Connecticut, have contributed 1,400 bushels of grain; Middletown about the same quantity; Kensington, 600; Middle Haddam, 600; and other towns in that Colony are doing the same for the relief of the poor in this town."

The Connecticut House of Representatives, October 20, 1774, unanimously "Resolved, That contributions from all the towns in this Colony, for supplying the necessities and alleviating the distresses of our brethren at Boston, ought to be continued, in such manner, and so long as their occasions may require."

At a legal meeting of the Town of Danbury, Connecticut, on the 12th of December, the fifth declaration was: "As we look upon the Town of Boston to be suffering in the common cause of American liberty, we would manifest our hearty sympathy with them, in their present calamitous state, and readiness to

able metropolis, under their present severe and unparalleled sufferings in the common cause of American liberty, from the cruel and oppressive edicts of a British Parliament, most cheerfully undertook the trust, and have been (agreeable to the sense of the Town) endeavoring to collect in grain, (as was proposed,) a proportion among the inhabitants, as nearly as might be to the value of 1*d.* on the pound on the list of the polls and rateable estates, &c. But as many people have expended almost or quite all their old stores, and have none they can now spare, have not raised so much as we flattered ourselves we should have; but supposing what we could now send before harvest, might be more acceptable than after, when we trust many other towns round about us will be sending, have now forwarded

administer to the relief of their suffering poor, according to our abilities; and do accordingly recommend to the inhabitants of this town to contribute liberally of money or provisions. For this purpose we have appointed Captain Daniel Starr, Messrs. John McLean, Zadock Benedict, and Andrew Comstock, a Committee to receive such donations, and transmit the same to the Committee appointed to receive them in the Town of Boston. Our being so late in contributing to their relief hath not arisen from our having been unconcerned spectators of their distressed situation; but hearing of the laudable zeal of others, we were ready to conclude there was a sufficient present supply, and that our donations would be more needed, and more acceptable at some future time."

The Boston Gazette of March 27, 1775, has the following preamble and resolution passed on the 8th of March, 1775, by the House of Representatives of Connecticut:

"*Whereas*, our brethren of the Town of Boston, have long suffered, and are yet suffering under the hand of oppression, grievous and unparalleled hardships and distresses, in consequence of their resolution to support the great principles of constitutional liberty; and having endured and yet enduring those sufferings in the common cause of America, with most exemplary fortitude and magnanimity, the principles of humanity and justice to ourselves and them, require that they should not be left to sink under the weight of burdens which, without assistance, may become absolutely insupportable:

"And although many donations have been made them, by this and the other Colonies, yet upon authentic intelligence, it appears they are inadequate to the real distresses, in which thousands of their innocent and virtuous inhabitants are involved by means as aforesaid:

"This House taking the matters aforesaid into their serious consideration, do *Resolve*, That it be, and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the several towns in this Colony, to continue cheerfully and liberally to contribute to the relief of their suffering brethren in said Town, according to the several abilities, which divine Providence has given them, esteeming it an incumbent duty, and an acceptable service in the sight of God and their country.

"By order of the House.

"WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Speaker*."

by Captain Israel Williams, (who went last Saturday down the river,) as you will see by his receipt enclosed, viz., 34 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels wheat, 248 $\frac{1}{2}$ of rye, and 390 of Indian corn, which small mite, we hope (through the great indulgence of the commander of your fleets and armies) may be carried in with safety, and for which we shall pay him the freight, at one halfpenny per bushel, less than customary, for which he was so kind as (besides putting in his proportion) to agree to transport it. The whole, as proposed by the Town, would amount to the value of twenty or thirty pounds more, which we hope, after harvest, to be able to collect and send, and if need be, much more. Earnestly wishing you may have prudence, wisdom and fortitude, (much of which is needed,) so to conduct under the many more insults which we expect will be offered, as to prevent the dreadful consequences of a civil war, and disappoint those at home who, we verily believe, wish to have verified, those lies that they have so industriously reported and spread among the people there—that America is in an actual state of rebellion—and in confidence you will never give up the glorious cause in which you have hitherto stood foremost, and for which you are now only foremost in suffering, unless some measures be come into, which we doubt not but may, and hope and trust will be, in the General Congress, (which we rejoice to find is likely soon to take place,) that shall confound the enemies of Boston, America and Great Britain, and bring about a happy issue of the present glorious struggle for Liberty; and we trust, notwithstanding the many cruel invectives thrown out by the common enemy, the Bostonians will be remembered with everlasting honor.

We are, Gentlemen, touched with the most tender sense of your really distressed situation, your sincere friends in the common cause, and hearty well-wishers,

EZEKIEL WILLIAMS, { In behalf of
the Committee.

P. S. We have directed—in conformity to the vote of the Town appointing us, &c.—To the Selectmen or Overseers of the Poor in Boston, but have subscribed this to John Barrett, Esq., as we understand Farmington were directed to do, in case they sent any grain, some of which they proposed, is now on board Capt. []

REPLY TO WETHERSFIELD.¹*Boston, July 29th, 1774.*

SIR,

Your very obliging letter of the 25th instant, directed to the Selectmen or Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston, has been by them communicated to a Committee of this Town appointed to receive the donation made for the employment or relief of such inhabitants as are or may be more immediate sufferers by the cruel Act of Parliament for shutting up our harbor. This, at the desire and in the name of this Committee, I am very gratefully to acknowledge, the generosity of the Town of Wethersfield, in the donation made by them, for the purpose above mentioned, consisting of $34\frac{3}{4}$ bushels of wheat, $248\frac{1}{2}$ of rye, and 390 of Indian corn, which your letter informs is forwarded by Capt. Israel Williams, and for their kind intentions still further. They may be assured that their beneficence will be applied to the purpose for which they have designed it. This Town is suffering the stroke of ministerial vengeance, as they apprehend, for the liberties of America, and it affords them abundant satisfaction to find that they have the concurrent sentiments of their brethen in the sister Colonies in their favor, evidenced by the most liberal acts of munificence for their support. While they are thus encouraged and supported, I trust they will never be so ungrateful to their friends, as well [as] so lost to a sense of virtue, as to "give up the glorious cause." They have need of wisdom and fortitude to confound the devices of their enemies, and to endure the hard conflict with dignity. They rejoice in the approaching general American Congress, and trust that, by the divine direction and blessing, such measures will be taken as will "bring about a happy

¹ *Boston, July 28, 1774.* "Every part of this extensive continent, as we have yet heard, appears to be deeply interested in the fate of this unhappy Town. Many and great are the donations we have already received, and many more we have good reason to expect. The cry of hunger is not so great as we at first expected. Even our poorest people have not suffered for the want of bread. May that Being who hath the hearts of all men in his hands, and who turneth them as he pleaseth, still dispose our sympathizing brethren to continue their benefactions, till we are happily relieved from our present difficulties."—*Forre's Archives*, vol. i. 646. [Ed.]

issue of the present glorious struggle," and secure the rights of America upon the permanent principles of equal liberty and truth.

I am, with very great regard to the Gentlemen of your Committee, Sir, your friend and fellow-countryman,

SAM. ADAMS.

To Ezekiel Williams, Esq., at Wethersfield.



LETTER FROM NEW JERSEY.¹

Elizabeth Town, (New Jersey,) 28th July, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The arbitrary and cruel oppression under which your metropolis now labors, from the suspension of commerce, must inevitably reduce multitudes to inexpressible difficulties and distress. Suffering in a glorious and common cause, sympathy and resentment, with peculiar energy, fills the breasts of your anxious countrymen. As the King of kings and Ruler of princes seems in a remarkable manner to be inspiring these Colonies with a spirit of union, to confound the councils of your unrighteous oppressors, and with a spirit of humanity and benevolence towards an innocent and oppressed people, so we trust he will also inspire your Town with patience, resignation and fortitude, until this great calamity shall be overpast.

We have the pleasure to acquaint you, that on the 21st

¹ The Committee of Correspondence of New Jersey, on the 1st of June, in a reply to a communication received from Massachusetts, expressed their sympathy with the people of Boston; and public meetings were called in different places throughout the Province, to consider the Port Bill. At a meeting held at Newark on the 11th of June, it was proposed that meetings should be held in the Counties to appoint Committees to meet together and take measures for acting with the other Colonies.—*Mulford's New Jersey*, p. 389. At a meeting of the inhabitants of Morris County, in Morristown, on the 27th of June, 1774, it was "Voted, That it is the request of this meeting, that the County Committees, when met for the purpose aforesaid, do take into their serious consideration the propriety of setting on foot a subscription for the benefit of the sufferers at Boston, under the Boston Port Bill, above mentioned, and the money arising from such subscription to be laid out as the Committees so met shall think will best answer the ends proposed."

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Middlesex County, on the 15th of July, "Voted, That an immediate subscription be set on foot throughout this County, towards the relief of the suffering families in the Town of Boston;" and a meeting of Committees from the Townships of Monmouth County, on the 19th of July, expressed "the sincerest sympathy and most cordial commiseration" with

inst., at the City of New Brunswick, the Province of New Jersey, with singular unanimity, (72 delegates from the several Counties, and a majority of the House of Representatives present and approving,) entered into similar resolutions with the other Colonies, elected five Deputies for the proposed Congress, and the County Committees then agreed to promote collections in their respective Counties for the relief of such of the unhappy inhabitants of the Town of Boston, as may be now reduced to extremity and want. To accomplish this purpose with the more acceptance to yourselves, we, the Committee of Correspondence for the Eastern division, request that, by the return of the post, you would be pleased to advise us in what way we can best answer your present necessities—whether cash remitted, or what articles of provision, or other necessities we can furnish from hence, would be most agreeable, and which we hope we shall be able to forward to Boston very soon after your advice shall be received. We doubt not gentlemen are devising every possible method for the employment of those who, by their deplorable situation, are cut off from all former means of subsistence.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order. WM. P. SMITH, *Chairman.*

Be pleased to direct your letter, in answer, to Wm. P. Smith, at Elizabeth Town, New Jersey.

*To the Committee of Correspondence
for the Town of Boston.*

their “respected brethren” of Boston; and declared that, “as they expect, under God, that the final deliverance of America will be owing, in a great degree, to a continuance of their virtuous struggle, they esteem themselves bound in duty and interest, to afford them every assistance and alleviation in their power;” and they also recommended the Committees of all the Counties to provide for subscriptions in every part of the Colony.

The meeting of the Committees of the several Counties of New Jersey, was held at New Brunswick, on the 21st of July, when it was “*Resolved*, That it appears to us, to be a duty incumbent on the good people of this Province, to afford some immediate relief to the many suffering inhabitants of the Town of Boston. Therefore, the several County Committees do now engage to set on foot, and promote collections, without delay, either by subscriptions or otherwise, throughout their respective Counties; and that they will remit the moneys arising from the said subscriptions, or any other benefactions, that may be voluntarily made by the inhabitants, either to Boston, or into the hands of James Neilson, John Dennis, William Ouke, Abraham Hunt, Samuel Tucker, Dr. Isaac Smith, Grant Gibbon, Thomas Sinnicks, and John Carey, whom we do hereby appoint a Committee for forwarding the same to Boston, in such way and manner as they shall be advised will best answer the benevolent purposes designed.”—ED.

REPLY TO NEW JERSEY.

Boston, August 22d, 1774.

SIR,

The Committee of Correspondence for this Town have handed to the Committee of Donations a letter from you, of 28th ultimo, which breathes such a spirit of union and hearty concern for the rights of America, as must enkindle in every breast the highest opinion of the virtue and firmness of the inhabitants of New Jersey. With hearts deeply impressed with gratitude, we note your kind intentions to contribute for the relief of the inhabitants of this Town, suffering by means of the Boston Port Bill, and desire to know "in what way you can best answer our present necessities, whether cash remitted or articles of provision." For answer, if cash should be equally agreeable to our friends, it would be very acceptable at this time, but would leave that matter entirely to your convenience. The Christian sympathy and generosity of our friends through the continent, cannot fail to inspire the inhabitants of this Town with patience, resignation and firmness, while we trust in the Supreme Ruler of the universe, that he will graciously hear our cries, and in his time free us from our present bondage, and make us rejoice in his great salvation. Please to present our grateful acknowledgment to our friends of New Jersey, and be assured we are, with the greatest esteem, Sir, your friends and fellow-countrymen,

NATH. APPLETON, per order.

Mr. William P. Smith, New Jersey.LETTER FROM CAPE FEAR.¹*Cape Fear, North Carolina, July 29th, 1774.*

GENTLEMEN,

We most heartily sympathize with the distressed inhabitants of the Town of Boston, and take the earliest

¹ In North Carolina, subscriptions for the relief of Boston were commenced in July. A letter in the Boston Gazette of August 22, dated Wilmington, N. C., July 20, states that, in a very short time after a subscription had been opened for the sufferers by the Port Bill, "a considerable sum was subscribed by several of the

opportunity to assure them that we consider ourselves as deeply involved in the misfortunes of that brave people. We view the attack made by the Minister upon the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay, to be intended to pave the way to a general subversion of the constitutional rights of North America. It becomes, therefore, the duty of every American, who is not an apostate to his country, to pursue every justifiable method that may have a tendency to avert this impending calamity. The inclosed Resolves speak the sentiments of the inhabitants of Cape Fear, and, we are well assured, of this Province in general. As a testimony of the sincerity of our professions and good wishes in behalf of your Town, we have loaded a sloop with provisions, which we have taken the freedom to address to your care ; and we request that you will apply them to the support of the indigent inhabitants of Boston, who, by the late oppressive Acts of Parliament, are now deprived of the means of procuring their subsistence by their daily labor and honest industry. Although inconsiderable in its value, yet we flatter ourselves that, when it is viewed as a testimony of the heartfelt share we take in the calamity of that Town, and as an earnest of our zealous endeavors to encourage them to persist, with prudent and manly firmness, in the

inhabitants of Cape Fear for that charitable purpose. Parker Quince, Esq., of Brunswick, has upon this occasion, offered a vessel to convey the provisions without a farthing expense to the subscribers, and Captain Budd and his sailors have agreed to navigate her to Salem gratis."

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the District of Wilmington on the 21st of July, it was "*Resolved*, That we consider the cause of the Town of Boston as the common cause of British America, and the inhabitants thereof as suffering in the defence of the rights of the Colonies in general ; and that therefore we have, in proportion to our abilities, sent a supply of provisions for the indigent inhabitants of that place, thereby to express our sympathy in their sufferings, and as an earnest of our sincere intentions to contribute, by every means in our power, to alleviate their distress, and to induce them to maintain, with prudence and firmness, the glorious cause in which they are at present embarked." A committee, raised at this meeting, addressed to the freeholders of the Province a circular letter, in which they tender congratulations, "upon the generous contribution of the inhabitants, which has put it in our power to load a vessel with provisions, which will sail this week for the port of Salem." An account, dated Wilmington, July 27, states that several widow ladies of that town had contributed very liberally to this object.

The Boston Gazette, of Sept. 5, contains the following extract from a letter from Wilmington, dated Aug. 2, 1774, addressed to a citizen of Boston :

"As to public matters I shall likewise please you, when I inform you that a patriotic spirit possesses every bosom, which all ranks of persons seem emulous to express by actions as well as by words ; even those few from whom another

cause in which they now suffer, it will not be thought altogether unworthy their acceptance.

In behalf of the inhabitants of Cape Fear, North Carolina, permit us to subscribe ourselves, Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

JAMES MOORE.
GEO. HOOPER.
R. HOWE.
A. MACLAINE.
WILL. HOOPER.
JNO. ANCRUM.
ROB'T HOGG.
FRANCIS CLAYTON.

To John Hancock, John Rowe, and Samuel Adams, Esquires.

conduct was expected, have surprised the world by a zeal for the service of our suffering brethren in Boston, and a liberality in contributing to their relief, which, till this occasion gave them an opportunity of displaying, scarce any body supposed them capable of. A subscription having been set on foot for the support of the Bostonians, (suffering nobly in the common cause of America,) a very few days, from a few individuals, produced as much as loaded the vessel by which this letter comes. And by this time, I have no doubt, enough is collected to load another. Nor is this all; for there is apparent, in almost every individual, a proper sense of the injury done to the Colonies, in the tendency of those oppressive acts of Parliament, and a determined spirit of opposition and resentment worthy of a human bosom, in the great cause of liberty.

"A numerous and respectable meeting of the six Counties in the District of Wilmington has been had, and they have, without one dissenting voice, resolved upon pursuing every legal and rightful measure, to aid and assist their sister Colony of the Massachusetts-bay to the utmost of their power, and have sent expresses to every County in the Province, strictly recommending a subscription in each of them for the same purpose."

Another letter from Wilmington, dated August 3d, says: "No sooner was a subscription put about for the relief of our suffering brethren in Boston, than in a few days I am told two thousand pounds our currency were raised, and it is expected something very considerable will be contributed at Newbern and Edenton for the same noble purpose, as subscriptions are set on foot in every County in the Province."

The Provincial Convention of this Colony, held at Newbern, on the 27th of August, 1774, "*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of the Massachusetts Province have distinguished themselves in a manly support of the rights of America in general, and that the cause in which they now suffer is the cause of every honest American, who deserves the blessings which the constitution holds forth to them. That the grievances, under which the Town of Boston labors at present, are the effect of a resentment, levelled at them, for having stood foremost in an opposition to measures, which must eventually have involved all British America in a state of abject dependence and servitude.

"*Resolved*, That we view the attempts made by the ministers upon the Town of Boston, as a prelude to a general attack upon the rights of the other Colonies, and that upon the success of this depends, in a great measure, the happiness of

REPLY TO CAPE FEAR.

Boston, September 7th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your favor of July 29th ult., directed to Messrs. Hancock, Rowe, and Adams, came to the hands of the Committee of Donations.

The contents of the bill [of] lading which you inclosed, are received and landed here, and shall be applied to the purposes for which they were so generously bestowed. The tender sympathy and brotherly kindness expressed in your letter, and so fully evidenced by the very liberal donations of our worthy and patriotic brethren of Cape Fear, are truly affecting. Our sincere and grateful acknowledgments are justly their due. They will please kindly to accept this testimony thereof; and may they find, to their everlasting consolation, the truth of our Lord and Saviour's observation, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

But while we are ready to acknowledge the Christian charity, yea, munificence, of our friends, we should be very guilty in the sight of God, if we did not explicitly acknowledge his superintending providence and gracious attention to the state of this distressed Town, manifested by repeated and seasonable supplies. He has the hearts of kings, and of all their subjects, in his hand, and no creature can either help or hurt but by his sovereign direction or permission. To him, therefore, both givers and receivers are infinitely obliged, and to him they should render their most humble and thankful praises. God grant that herein we may all unite.

It is ordered by God, who can never do any wrong to his creatures, that Massachusetts in general, and Boston in particular, should receive the first blow, and feel the weight of ministerial vengeance. We have felt the shock. We feel it still, but we are not yet intimidated; we remain

America, in its present race and in posterity; and that therefore it becomes our duty to contribute, in proportion to our abilities, to ease the burden imposed upon that Town, for their virtuous opposition to the revenue acts, that they may be enabled to persist in a prudent and manly opposition to the schemes of Parliament, and render its dangerous designs abortive."—ED.

undaunted. Our God supports and sustains us. To him we would continue humbly to look for wisdom, direction, firmness, resolution and success. We hope he has begun salvation for us. Our enemy doth not triumph over us.

The cause in which this people are engaged, and which, God helping us, we are determined to live and die by, we believe to be the cause of truth and righteousness, and must therefore issue well. "*Magna est veritas et [pre-]val-ebit.*" All North America is deeply interested in the cause; our political life and death are bound up in the event. Our union, firmness and prudence, are our strength and hope, and no less the dread and terror of the enemies of our civil and religious rights and liberties, and under God will be our salvation.

But after all, it is not for us to know the times or the seasons. When these troubles will end, or whether we shall not be called to yet greater trials, God only knows. He knows when, and what to do; and of this we may rest satisfied, that he will, by all that takes place, advance his own glory and his people's best interest; and, when he has answered the ends of his government in this part of his most holy and righteous administration, they shall be promoted to honor, perhaps in this world, certainly in the next; but his and his people's implacable enemies shall be covered with confusion, and filled with everlasting contempt.

This we design by Parker Quince, Esqr., your friend and ours. A vessel arrived yesterday at Salem, and, it is said, with thirty-three chests of tea, and a mast-ship expected at Portsmouth, in New Hampshire, with a very large quantity. What an insult this, upon the whole Continent! But as Mr. Quince is upon the spot, and doubtless gets information of what passes, we think it needless to go into a particular detail thereof, and would refer you to him.

We are, with great affection and esteem,
Gentlemen,

Your very obliged, humble servants,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { In behalf of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

*To Colonel James Moore and others, a Committee
at Cape Fear, North Carolina.*

*Rhode Island,*¹ *Aug. 19th, 1774.*

SIR,

I arrived here two days past, in a sloop, with provision for the poor of Boston, and should esteem it a favor in your advising where will be most suitable to land her cargo. If it is equally convenient, I think Providence is the nearest place. I shall keep the sloop here, till I have the pleasure of a few lines from you by next post, and am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

P. QUINCE.

The Hon'ble John Hancock, Esq.

Boston, August 22d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Donations have received advice this day, of a cargo of provisions from North Carolina, arrived at Newport, waiting for our directions. We have ordered the master to proceed to Marblehead, and apply to you for further advice and directions.

This is to ask the favor of you to direct the master, after regular entry and clearance, to proceed up to Boston, and if any expense should be incurred by you, your draft on us shall be immediately honored. The kindness this town have experienced from our friends of Marblehead, and especially from you, encourages us to take the freedom. We hope to persevere under our trials and firmly resist the hand of oppression, trusting in the Supreme Ruler of the universe, that he will in his time extricate us from all our troubles, and we shall yet be a free and happy people.

With the highest esteem and respect,

We are, Gentlemen,

Your very obliged friend and servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, } In behalf of
the Committee.

To Colonel Orne.

Mr. Elbridge Gerry, of Marblehead.

¹ The four succeeding letters relate to the donation received from Cape Fear.
—Ed.

Boston, August 22d, 1774.

SIR,

Colonel Hancock favored the Committee of Donations with a letter from you, 19th instant, advising of the arrival of a cargo of provisions from North Carolina, for the relief of our poor, suffering by means of the Boston Port Bill. Said Committee have this day taken the matter into consideration, and have agreed to request the favor of you to order the vessel round to Marblehead, and then apply to Colonel Orne and Mr. Elbridge Gerry, for their advice and assistance. We stand ready to defray any charges arising on the same. This Town are deeply affected with the Christian sympathy and generosity of our friends through the Continent, and we now, in behalf of the Town, return our cordial and grateful acknowledgments to our worthy friends and brethren of Carolina, for this instance of their readiness to support the common cause of American liberty, and the relief of this Town, suffering under the cruel hand of oppression.

Please, Sir, to accept our hearty thanks for the particular care you have taken in this matter.

We wish you and our brethren of Carolina the best of Heaven's blessings, and are, with great esteem, your and their very obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

NATH'L APPLETON, { Chairman pro tempore of the
Committee of Donations.

Mr. Parker Quince, at Newport.

Boston, Sept. 7th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

It gives me pleasure to find my small endeavors have met with your approbation, and you may rest assured that the inhabitants of North Carolina, so far as their sentiments could be had at the time I left the Province, beheld with abhorrence the distresses brought on this Town and country, by the oppressive Port Bill and others, and unanimously resolved to aid and assist, to the utmost of their power, their suffering brethren in Boston, and to join

heartily with all the Colonies in seeking redress of their common grievances.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obliged and very humble servant,

PARKER QUINCE.

To the Committee of Donations.



LETTER FROM MARBLEHEAD.

Marblehead, July 30th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The unrighteous conduct of the British Parliament toward the Town of Boston, in the detested Port Bill, merits not only the attention, but the warmest resentment of all America; and it is with the most cordial satisfaction we view the greatest part thereof attending to the deplorable consequences of it, and at the same time unitedly endeavoring to counteract. But, above all, we cannot but express our sincere approbation of the conduct of the Colonies in that beneficence and charity towards the unhappy sufferers at Boston, (by means of that oppressive act,) which has circulated through the whole. The inhabitants of this Town, whose circumstances are at present greatly impaired by a reduction of the fishery, as well as distresses arising from the small-pox, beg leave, like the widow, to cast in our mite, which, please to favor by a kind and friendly acceptance of the same. The donation consists of 224 quintals of good eating fish, such as our inhabitants all of them use, except those whose circumstances afford them winter fish,—the price of this, if you should have occasion to turn into cash, is $13\frac{1}{4}$ at least at this time, and usually has been at $14\frac{1}{8}$ per quintal; one and $\frac{3}{4}$ casks of olive oil, one of which we presume you have received ere this can meet you, and thirty-nine pounds, five shillings and three-pence in cash. In justice to the characters of some who signed the address to Mr. Hutchinson, and were probably misled in that matter, we must acquaint you that Messrs. Joseph Lee, Jno. Prince, Robert Ambrose, Robert Hooper, Junr., and Joseph Swasey, were subscribers to the dona-

tions of this Town before mentioned. We truly wish we could say that the other *barely* refused subscribing to so rational and humane a purpose, but we forbear to pursue so disagreeable a subject, and shall conclude by wishing you that support under a burthen (which our enemies thought at first view intolerable) which shall finally free America from its present bondage.

We are, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen.
By order and in behalf of the Committee of Correspondence,

JOHN GERRY, *Clerk.*

P. S.—We would also inform you that we find two more of the addressers subscribers to the donations, viz. Messrs. John Webb and John Stimson, and that the carters who bring this donation most generously do it at half price.

We are, as before, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen. By order and in behalf of the Committee,

J. GERRY, *Clerk.*

REPLY TO MARBLEHEAD.¹

Boston, August 2d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee for Donations yesterday received your kind letter, by the hands of Mr. Gatchfel, acquainting them of the very generous present made to the sufferers in this

¹ The Boston Gazette of August 1, 1774, has the following article:—"More than sixty days have expired, since Boston, by a late Edict of the British Parliament, has been besieged by a British fleet and army, and its trade annihilated. The inhabitants now receive that insult and damage, which was never experienced in the hottest wars we have been engaged in with France and Spain, and their allies, the savages of the American woods: The particulars of the siege, and the manœuvres of our enemies, may in future be told by some able historian. Suffice it at present to inform the world, that though wood and provisions have been allowed us by said Port-Act, the introduction of these articles has been attended with such loss of time and unnecessary charges as greatly to raise the price of fuel upon the poor inhabitants: No wood can now be brought from the rivers and bays included in our harbor, upon which we depended for a considerable part of our supply: No goods of any kind are suffered to be waterborne within a circle of sixty miles: No timber, boards, shingles, bricks, lime, sand, &c. &c., are to be transported from one wharf to another; and so even the tradesmen, not immediately dependent upon shipping, are thrown out of business. No barrels of liquors, bread, flour, &c. are suffered to be brought a few rods in our row boats, or across our shortest ferries; and even the

Town by the unrighteous and cruel Act of the British Parliament, commonly called the Port Bill. They had before received one barrel of olive oil. Mr. Gatchel delivered them £39 1s. 3d. in cash, and this day the fish in eleven carts, and the remainder of the oil came to hand. I am desired by that Committee to express their warmest gratitude to the gentlemen of Marblehead, who have so liberally contributed on this occasion, and to assure them that it will be applied in a manner agreeable to the intention of the charitable donors.

It was in all probability the expectation of Lord North, the sister Colonies would totally disregard the fate of Boston, and that she would be left to suffer and fall alone. Their united resolution, therefore, to support her in the conflict, will, it is hoped, greatly perplex him in the further prosecution of his oppressive measures, and finally reduce him to the necessity of receding from them. While we are thus aided by our brethren, you may depend upon it that we shall not disgrace the common cause of America, by any submissions to the barbarous edict. Our inhabitants still wear cheerful countenances, and they *will* be supported by the beneficence of our friends, notwithstanding one of your addressers meanly insinuated to a gentleman of South Carolina, at Salem, yesterday, that they would receive no benefit from the large donation of rice received from that place. Such an intimation discovers a degree of depravity of heart which cannot easily be ex-

vessels on the stocks, which have for some time past been ready for launching, cannot be put into the water, without their being exposed to a threatened seizure. Neither is the dry'd table fish and oil, the charity of our Marblehead friends, nor rice, the generous present of the Carolinians, nor even house-sand, to be brought us by water, but must be encumbered with the great charge of about thirty miles. We are also cut off from the advantage and profit of supplying as usual an extent of sea-coast on the north and south of more than one hundred leagues, even with British merchandise. And when any of these hardships and distresses are mentioned to those insolents in office, the Commissioners and their understrappers, we are told it was the design of the Act, and that it is not their intent to lessen these difficulties :—This is the treatment meted out by a British minister to a Town and Province, by whose exertions in a late war, the strong fortress of Louisburgh was taken, which purchased the Peace of Europe, and delivered Britons from their terrible apprehensions of an invasion by French flat-bottomed boats. What further cruelties we are to suffer we know not; but whether America, or even this single Town, is in this way to be brought to the feet of Lord North, with the full surrender of their inestimable rights and liberties, time only can determine.—Ed.

pressed. I have received a letter from your [Committee?] to our Committee of Correspondence, which I shall lay before them at their meeting this evening.

I am, in behalf of the Committee of Donations, Gentlemen, your friend and fellow-countryman,

SAM. ADAMS.

P. S. Mr. Phillips, a carter, with about fifteen quintals of fish and the remainder of the oil, is not yet come in, but is expected every hour.

The Committee of Correspondence at Marblehead.



LETTER FROM NEW CASTLE.¹

New Castle-on-Delaware, Aug. 2d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Correspondence chosen by the freeholders and freemen of the County of Newcastle-upon-Delaware, agreeable to a resolution entered into at a general meeting for the said County, have opened a subscription for the relief of the poor inhabitants of the Town of Boston, and met with some success therein; but as some of the

¹ The "Gentlemen Freeholders and others," of the County of New Castle, Delaware, were summoned by a circular, dated June 17, 1774, and signed "A Freeman," to meet at New Castle on the 29th of June, "to consider of the most proper mode of procuring relief for our dear countrymen and brethren of Boston, the redressing the beforementioned grievance, (the legislation of Parliament,) &c." The meeting on the 29th of June, was presided over by Thomas McKean; and by the first resolve it is declared, "We consider our brethren of Boston as suffering in the common cause of America." A Committee of Correspondence of thirteen were chosen, who were instructed as follows: "That the said Committee immediately set on foot a subscription for the relief of such poor inhabitants of the Town of Boston as may be deprived of the means of subsistence by the Act of Parliament, commonly styled the Boston Port Bill; the money arising from such subscription to be laid out as the Committee shall think will best answer the ends proposed." On the 20th of July, the inhabitants of Kent county met at Dover, and adopted the above cited resolve. On the 23d of July, the inhabitants of Sussex county met at Lewistown, and passed resolves, among which is the following: "*Resolved*, That the Committee hereinafter appointed, are hereby desired to receive the subscriptions of such charitable persons in this county, who shall incline to contribute towards the distressed and suffering inhabitants

inhabitants, as well as the Committee, are apprehensive that more provisions may be sent to you than may be wanted for the purpose intended, and money or raw materials might answer better, we are desirous, before any remittance is made, to know your sentiments hereon. The Committees of Correspondence for the Counties of Kent and Sussex, have adopted the same measures with us, and expect your answer also. If you are pleased to inclose your letters for them to us, we shall take care to forward them.

We shall be greatly obliged to you, to furnish us with an estimate of the number of poor inhabitants in your Town, who may be distressed by means of the *humane* Boston Port Bill, and what sum might be necessary to relieve them annually.

We are, Gentlemen, with the utmost regard, your fellow-subjects and brethren, the Committee of Correspondence for the County of Newcastle,

And your most obedient, humble servants,

THOMAS MCKEAN.

JOHN EVANS.

JOHN MCKINLY.

JAMES LATIMER.

GEORGE READ.

ALEX'R PORTER.

GEORGE MONRO.

The Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Boston.

of the Town of Boston ; and that the money raised by such subscriptions be disposed of by the said Committee for the use of the said inhabitants, whom we consider as suffering in the common cause of America."

On the 1st of August, the Committees of the three Counties, pursuant to a Circular Letter from the Speaker of the House, met at New Castle, in Convention. Cæsar Rodney was the Chairman. On the 2d of August, the Convention passed a series of resolutions, one of which was the following:—"That it is the indispensable duty of all the Colonies, not only to alleviate the unexampled distresses of our brethren of Massachusetts Bay, who are suffering in the common cause of America, but to assist them, by all lawful means, in removing their grievances, and for re-establishing their constitutional rights, as well as those of all America, on a solid and permanent foundation."

A County Convention, held at New Castle, on the 21st of December, "*Resolved, unanimously*, That contributions from this County, for supplying the necessities and alleviating the distresses of our brethren in Boston, ought to be continued in such manner and so long as their occasions may require ; and that it is the duty of the Committee of Correspondence of the said County, to collect and transmit the same as soon as possible."—ED.

REPLY TO NEW CASTLE.

Boston, August 25th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your favor of 2d instant came to the hands of the Committee of Correspondence this week, and was by them handed to the Committee of Donations for an answer.

The state of this once flourishing and highly favored metropolis, is truly affecting, and we may say alarming ; for Boston, though first struck at and oppressed, will hardly be the only Town, or Massachusetts the only Province, that shall feel the weight of ministerial vengeance. The Town really feels it at this present time, as it already hath almost three months, but, through the goodness of our God, who has all hearts in his hand, and can encourage and strengthen, or depress and intimidate as he pleaseth, we remain firm and undaunted, and through the kind influence of the same Infinite goodness and Almighty power, we shall go on and persevere, until we, though more immediate sufferers, and all our friends and brethren on this widely extended continent, shall reap the fruits, the happy fruits of our faith and patience, our zeal and firmness in the glorious cause of truth, righteousness and freedom.

It seems somewhat difficult for us to determine whether the oppression and cruelty of the Boston Port Bill, or the Christian sympathy and liberality of our dear friends and countrymen, (particularly in New Castle,) be most affecting. We must sum up what we have to offer on this head by saying, that you have greatly refreshed our spirits, and strengthened our hands, and we hope we shall not do any thing that shall incur a forfeiture of the love, confidence and affection of our brethren in New Castle and elsewhere. Your letter lays us under an additional obligation, by an implicit offer to furnish us with cash or raw materials, after having heard from us. 'Tis a well known saying, that " money answers all things ;" and yet, so it happens, sometimes, that some particular articles cannot be had for money. Either cash, iron, hemp or flax, may be sent, as our friends shall find most convenient. It is not easy, on first thought, nor indeed after considerable inquiry, to say with any

degree of precision, what may be “the number of poor inhabitants distressed by means of the Boston Port Bill, and what sum might be necessary to relieve them annually.”

Thus much we can say, that before the Port Bill, the annual charge for support of the Town's poor was about twenty-four hundred pounds, our lawful money. But the number of the poor, by means of the *humane* Port Bill, is doubtless increased in a twofold, if not threefold proportion, and considerable numbers, who, three months ago, lived very comfortably, are now spending on the little they had laid up against a rainy day, but have not yet made their cases known.

We have not time to add, save to request your acceptance of our most grateful acknowledgments for such expressions of benevolence and generosity; and that you will daily supplicate the throne of grace, that God would show us his mercy, and cause us to rejoice in his great salvation.

We are, with great esteem, Gentlemen,
Your much obliged, humble servants,

DAVID JEFFRIES, *per order.*

P. S.—You will please to transcribe so much of this letter, and forward our brethren of Kent and Sussex Counties, as you may think proper.

*To Thomas McKean, Esqr., and others,
Committee of Correspondence for New Castle.*



LETTER TO KENT COUNTY.

Boston, August 25th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

A very kind, affectionate, sympathizing letter from the Committee of Correspondence for New Castle, Delaware, dated August 2d inst., has this week come to hands of the Committee of Donations, through the Committee of Correspondence for this Town, to whom said letter was directed. The Committee of Delaware write that “the Committee of

Correspondence for the Counties of Kent and Sussex," have adopted the same measures with them, and expect our answers also; and, that if we are pleased to inclose our letters for you, to them, they shall take care to forward them.

As we are straitened for time, we hope you will excuse us if we refer you in part to our letter to said Committee for Newcastle, Delaware, and transcribe some part nearly of what we wrote to them, as follows: Your letter lays us under an additional obligation, by an implicit offer to furnish us with cash or raw material, after having learned from us. 'Tis a well known saying, that "money answers all things," and yet, so it happens, sometimes, that some articles cannot be had for money. Either cash, iron, hemp, or flax, may be sent, as our friends shall find most convenient. It is not easy to say, with any degree of precision, what may be the "number of poor inhabitants distressed by means of the Boston Port Bill, and what sum may be necessary to relieve them annually."

Thus much we can say, that before the Port Bill, the annual charges for support of the Town's poor, were about twenty-four hundred pounds, lawful money, but the number of poor by means of the *humane* Port Bill, is doubtless increased in a twofold, if not threefold proportion, and, considerable numbers who three months ago lived very comfortably, are now spending on the little they had laid up against a rainy day, but have not made their cases known.

We have not time to add, save to request your acceptance of our most grateful acknowledgment for such expressions of benevolence and generosity; and that you will daily supplicate the throne of grace, that God would show us his mercy, and cause us to rejoice in his great salvation.

We are, with great esteem, Gentlemen,
Your much obliged, humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, *per order.*

To the Committee of Correspondence for the County of Kent.

N. B.—A copy of this letter was sent to the County of Sussex, on Delaware.

LETTER TO BROOKFIELD.

Boston, August 3d, 1774.

SIR,

The Committee appointed by this Town to receive donations for the relief of our poor, suffering by the shutting up this port, have this day received by the hands of Mr. Roger Willington, $8\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of rye and 10 bushels Indian corn, as a donation from several gentlemen of Brookfield; but as we received no letter advising us who we are particularly obliged to for this kind present, we take this opportunity to request you will please to return the sincere thanks of this Town to all those Gentlemen that contributed towards this donation. We esteem it a confirmation of that union and friendship which subsists at this time, and is of the utmost importance to secure the rights and liberties of this Province and indeed of all America. We shall endeavor to distribute the donations of our friends to the best advantage to promote industry and harmony in this Town. Wishing you the rewards that attend the generous,

We are, with great respect and gratitude, Sir, your friends and servants,

SAM. ADAMS.

Mr. Joseph Gilbert, of Brookfield.



LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE.

Boston, August 3d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

You are desired by the Committee of the Town of Boston, appointed to receive and distribute the donations for the employment and relief of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, to ship one hundred casks of the rice shipped from South Carolina for that purpose, now at Salem, to this Town, and to sell the remainder, or any part of it, for cash, if you can, at a suitable price.

By order of the Committee,

EDW'D L'D SANDERS, *Clerk.*

Capt. Fortisque Vernon, and Mr. Thomas Crafts, Jun.

LETTER FROM BALTIMORE.¹*Baltimore, Aug. 4th, 1774.*

GENTLEMEN,

By order of the Committee of Correspondence for this Town, we have shipped on board the sloop *America*, Perkins Allen, master, three thousand bushels of corn, twenty barrels of rye flour, two barrels of pork, and twenty barrels of bread, for the relief of our brethren, the distressed inhabitants of your Town, being in virtue of a subscription raised by the inhabitants of Baltimore Town, on that account.

¹ In Maryland, the intelligence of the passage of the Port Bill, excited general indignation. On the 18th of May, at a meeting of "a number of gentlemen" at Talbot Court House, it was resolved to unite with their fellow-subjects in any constitutional way "to avert the evils" threatened Boston, by this Act. On the 25th of May, a meeting of "the inhabitants of the city of Annapolis," resolved "it was the unanimous opinion of this meeting, that the Town of Boston is now suffering in the common cause of America." Charles Carroll, William Paca, and Samuel Chase, were of the Committee chosen at this meeting.

Public meetings were subsequently held in all the Counties. On the 30th of May, the inhabitants of Queen Anne's County declared "that they look upon the cause of Boston, in its consequences, to be the common cause of America." On the 2d of June, the inhabitants of Kent County, met at Chestertown; chose a large Committee of Correspondence; and directed this Committee to select delegates to meet the delegates from the other Counties, "in one grand Provincial Committee" at Annapolis. The official account of this meeting reads:—"The gentlemen of the Committee, being moved with the most tender sympathy for their suffering brethren of Boston, particularly of the laboring poor, who are deprived of the means of supporting themselves and families, by the operation of the Act for blocking up their harbor, opened a subscription for their relief, which in a short time was filled up to a considerable amount, and is left in the hands of the chairman to be collected and shipped to them in such articles of provisions as may be most wanted, whenever it shall be necessary." At a meeting of the inhabitants of Harford County, on the 11th of June, it was "*Voted*, That we will join in an association of the other Counties, to send relief to the poor and distressed inhabitants of Boston, to enable them firmly to persevere in defence of the common cause."

The *Essex Gazette* of June 27, contains the following extract from a letter written by a member of the Chestertown Committee, dated 7th June, 1774:—"The Inhabitants of this County had a general meeting the second instant, and it gave much pleasure to see how heartily they sympathized with Boston. Twenty-five gentlemen were appointed a Committee of Correspondence, among whom I have the honor to be named. After the business was over, a subscription was proposed to the Committee, which was most cheerfully adopted, and they subscribed, some £20, others £10, and none less than £5, to be laid out in provisions, and forwarded for the use of such poor people as are reduced to necessity by the cruel hand of oppression. My advice was to send off a load of corn, without giving any notice of it, which I concluded would be an agreeable surprise to Boston. Words are said to be cheap, but it is universally allowed, that

In the bill of lading for said articles, is also included one thousand bushels of corn, which we have purchased and shipped for the same account, on the strength of a subscription now making by the inhabitants of Annapolis, which a gentleman of their Committee has assured us should be paid to us, when their collections are made. As there was spare room in the vessel, we were glad of an opportunity of furthering to you a part of their benevolent intentions. We flatter ourselves the good people of this Province, who have in general discovered a hearty disposition to sympathy in your grievances, will generously contribute, according to their articles, to maintain and support

when a man parts with his money, he is in earnest. Subscription papers are sent out into the country, and I dare say will be filled up to a large amount. Those who cannot give money, can give corn. The people of Boston need not be afraid of being starved to a compliance. If they will only give a short notice, they may make their Town the granary of America. We all hope they will stand to their integrity, and not sully the honor which they have so justly acquired."

The Committees appointed by the several Counties of Maryland, met at Annapolis, ninety-two in number, on the 22d of June, and chose Matthew Tilgham chairman. The proceedings of this Convention appear at length in the Essex Gazette of July 19, under the head of, "Resolves of the whole Province of Maryland." The first resolve declares, "that the Town of Boston and Province of Massachusetts are now suffering in the common cause of America." The eighth resolve is as follows: "*Resolved, unanimously*, That a subscription be opened in the several Counties of this Province, for an immediate collection for the relief of the distressed inhabitants of Boston, now cruelly deprived of the means of procuring subsistence for themselves and families, by the operation of the said Act for blocking up their harbor, and that the same be collected by the Committees of the respective Counties, and shipped by them in such provisions as may be thought most useful."

The following letter, taken from *Force's Archives*, vol. i. p. 594, purports to be "From the Committee of Boston, to the Committee of Baltimore."

Boston, July 16, 1774.

Gentlemen :—Your important letter of the 27th ultimo, with the inclosures, came safe to hand, and were regarded as "good news from a far country." The part taken by the Province of Maryland, must henceforth stop the mouths of those blasphemers of humanity, who have affected to question the existence of public virtue. So bright an example as you have set, cannot fail to animate and encourage even the lukewarm and indifferent; more especially such honest men as wish to be assured of support before they engage in so weighty an enterprise.

The account you give us of the spirit and magnanimity of the people of Virginia, confirms us in the opinion we have ever had of that ancient Colony, of whose disinterested virtue this Province has had ample experience. The noble sacrifice you stand ready to make, of the staple commodity of your Province, so materially affecting the revenue of Great Britain, and your generous interposition in our favor, have our warmest acknowledgments. So much honor, wisdom, public and private virtue; so much readiness in every Colony, to afford every species of aid and assistance that the suffering state requires, must evince

every sufferer in your and their common cause. If we can be in the least instrumental in furthering any contributions made in favor of your inhabitants, it will give us the most sincere pleasure, and some opportunity of exercising the grateful sense of many obligations which, as individuals, we are under to many good people of your Province. We are, with the highest respect,

Gentlemen, your most humble servants,

SAM'L and ROB'T PURVIANCE.

Committee of Correspondence in the Town of Boston.

[Per the sloop America, Captain P. Allen.]

to a venal herd, that notwithstanding they may be utterly unacquainted with the meaning of the word patriotism, it has, however, a substantial existence in North America. With the smiles of an all-governing Providence upon the vigorous efforts of our inestimable brethren at home and abroad, we promise ourselves a final deliverance from the calamities we are now subjected to; and which, for our own, our country, and posterity's political salvation, we resolve, by God's assistance, to sustain with fortitude and patience.

We are, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen.

Signed by order,

WILLIAM COOPER, *Town Clerk.*

The Essex Gazette of August 16, has the following article, dated Baltimore, Maryland, July 16. "A vessel, we hear, hath sailed from the eastern shore of this Province, with a cargo of provisions, as a free gift to our besieged brethren at Boston. The inhabitants of all the Counties of Virginia and Maryland, are subscribing with great liberality for the relief of the distressed Towns of Boston and Charlestown. The inhabitants of Alexandria, we hear, in a few hours, subscribed £350, for that noble purpose. Subscriptions are opened in this Town, for the support and animation of the inhabitants of Boston, under their present great conflict for the common freedom of us all, which have already been so successful, that a vessel is now loading with provisions for that place, as a testimony of the affection of this people towards their persecuted brethren, now bravely contending against 'fraud, power, and the most odious oppression,' which God grant may never rise triumphant over 'right, justice, social happiness and freedom.'"

At a meeting of the Deputies appointed by the several Counties of Maryland, at Annapolis, on the 8th of December, 1774, it was unanimously "*Resolved*, That contributions from the several Counties of this Province, for supplying the necessities and alleviating the distresses of our brethren at Boston, ought to be continued in such manner, and so long, as their occasions may require; and that it is the duty of the Committees of each County, to collect and transmit the same as soon as possible." And this recommendation was responded to by public meetings in some of the Counties.

The inhabitants of Charles County, on the 2d of January, 1775, directed their Committee "to collect the subscriptions already made to the Town of Boston, and also to obtain such additional subscriptions for the relief of the brave sufferers in that distressed Town, as can be got, and that the whole may be made in readiness to be sent as soon as possible."—Ed.

LETTER FROM BEVERLY.

Beverly, August 8th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We condole you on this important era, and shudder when we think on the savage treatment of our metropolis from the parent State. Our earnest desire is, that you and all the inhabitants of Boston may have that fortitude, resolution, firmness and calmness necessary on this most alarming crisis, that you may hold on and hold out to the last. We hope you will, from time to time, receive such aids and supports from your Christian brethren on the continent, as will both enable and encourage you thereto. We think, Gentlemen, as you are placed in the front rank, if you flinch, all will be over. Stand firm, and let your intrepid courage show the world you are men and Christians, who contend earnestly for the liberties once granted to this Province by charter. We rejoice to hear there is such a spirit prevailing in the country in general, in sending such supplies for the poor of Boston, which we doubt not will be great consolation to you; and will continue until a redress of all our grievances are obtained. We are waiting impatiently for the result of the Congress, which we hope will have a happy tendency to cement the Colonies as one man, in those ways and means that shall be conducive of their freedom, and deliverance from worse than Egyptian bondage,—unity being the only means, in our opinion, to obtain that happy event. We recommended to our Town the case of the poor of the Town of Boston, and they collected a small donation, which we have sent. We have this day met, in town meeting, for the purpose of raising money for defraying the expense of the Congress, which was voted *nem. con.*, and forthwith to be transmitted to the Honorable Tho's Cushing, Esqr., agreeable to the resolves of the late House of Representatives. This conduct of our Town, we hope, will convince all that we are sincerely engaged in the cause of our Constitutional

Liberty, and that we shall comply with the result of the Congress.

We are, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-sufferers in the cause. By order of the Committee of Correspondence,

SAM'L GOODRIDGE, *Clerk.*

P. S.—We have received several letters from you—the last bears date, July 26, 1774—and still desire correspondence.

To the Committee of Correspondence for Boston.



LETTER FROM LEBANON.

Lebanon, Aug. 8th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Province of the Massachusetts Bay, and the Town of Boston, (in our opinion,) are entitled to the most grateful thanks of all English America, for the very important part they have acted in the first settlement of this country, and for their noble and costly exertions, and the copious effusion of their blood in its defence, against her innumerable Indian and French enemies.

The King and nation of Great Britain are also indebted to you for the great hand you have had in enlarging the dominions of the one, and greatly increasing the beneficial commerce of the other, and neither the one, nor the other, of those services, would ever have been effected, but by the influence of that very spirit of liberty at which the B . . h Adm . . . on seem so enraged, and are so determined to crush. You have borne your burdens and struggles without their aid, with the instruments of culture in one hand, and the weapons of war in the other, for necessary defence while laboring for daily bread, and subduing the rugged soil. Your toils and your perils would have been absolutely insupportable, but for the all-cheering influence of the heaven-born maid, that spirit and thirst of religious and civil liberty, which inspired your and our fathers with divine enthusiasm to attempt, (and blessed be the Lord who

enabled them,) to accomplish the wonders which our eyes behold.

You had the most cogent reasons to believe that a nation renowned throughout the world for its strong and inviolable attachments to, and manly struggles in defence of liberty, would never suffer that inestimable jewel, for which they themselves have shed rivers of blood, to be wrested from you by the hand of violence, and more especially as it would lay a sure foundation for the destruction of their own remaining privileges, and for the vast diminution or total loss of their immensely beneficial American commerce.

Strange also that a K . . possessed of any just and humane sentiments, should be so regardless of the merits and rights of h . s American, and the interest and welfare of his B . . h su . j . ts, as to attempt to rend out of the hands of the former, all the fruits of their unparalleled sufferings and hardships, for the pleasure of rul . . g over the bodies of slaves, instead of rei . . ng in the hearts of freemen most willing to be his loy . l s . b . . ts forever, according to the Constitution of his C . . n and K . . m, and even at the immense hazard of obtaining by force, at most, far less than what the C . . n and K . . m might continue to receive by our free consent.

But such is the astonishing infatuation of the times, that the lust of ty . . ny is revived, and risen high in G. B., and liberty is to be hunted from the globe and quit the dwellings of men.

A more finished and perfect definition and picture of D . po . sm cannot be drawn by the skill of man, than is portrayed in the famous Declar . . ry B . ll or A . t of the B . . h P t, passed a few years since, nor can that be carried into more complete and perfect execution, (save in extent of its operation only,) than by that prodigy of op . . n and inj . . ce, the Boston Port Bill, and by two other Acts dis . . tr . ng the ancient Charter and Constitutional rights of your Colony.

Well might the short sighted M . . r think, the blows were so sudden and severe, had done the work, and that unless blood and dismal carnage prevented, he had effectually subjugated you, and that the rest would fall an easy prey.

But he was totally ignorant of your and the virtuous spirit and knowledge of America, while he confidently believed that you would first lie down and kiss his feet, and that the rest would patiently see you in that humble posture, and deem you solely aimed at, and justly punished for suffering the destruction of private property in your harbor, and some paltry wretches to be dressed in tar and feathers. But America sees with other eyes, and perfectly knows that you are only designed for the first victim in the hecatomb of sacrifice to be offered to the G . d of op . . s . on, and will not therefore willingly suffer you to bleed at the shrine of his brazen altar, until we all bleed and die together.

This Town, sensible of the extreme distress to which multitudes of your innocent, virtuous inhabitants are, must, and were intended to be reduced by the aforesaid Act, causing an almost total stagnation of business by which they procured their daily bread, and as a token of our most cordial sympathy, under your unparalleled sufferings in the common cause of American liberty, have, by voluntary subscriptions, cheerfully sent you, as we compute them, three hundred and seventy-six fat sheep for the relief of those who are most unable to support themselves and families, in your distressed situation, which we hope you will receive in good condition by the trusty hands of Capt. Elijah Hyde, one of the subscribers, with the friendly assistance of Mr. Titus Richardson and Eben'r West. We have also on hand, for the same purpose, which could not be now conveniently sent, about or near the value of thirty pounds, lawful money, which we shall soon send in beef cattle. We dare also encourage you to expect that this Town will repeat their quota of assistance, as long as your distresses continue, and we have any property at our own disposal.

We earnestly wish you to hold on, and hold out, in the virtuous resolution and firmness which inspired your fathers, and are conspicuous in you, and to wait and hope, in a prudent and a patient use of proper means, and with a truly religious trust in God, for his salvation, whose wonders for us have heretofore been marvelous in our eyes.

We are, Gentlemen, with tender feelings for your cruel sufferings in the best and most important cause, its hearty friends, and yours, with great esteem,

WM. WILLIAMS,	} <i>Selectmen of Lebanon.</i>
VELCH WILLIAMS,	
JONA. TRUMBULL, JUN'R.	
ELIJAH HYDE, JUN'R.	
JAMES PENNIO, JUN'R.	
PELATIAH MARSH,	

P. S.—The doings of our town meeting the 18th of July, in consequence of which our small collection is made, being inserted in the New London Gazette of the next week, we beg leave to refer you [to] that, if it should be thought worthy of your attention.

As you have printed some letters, &c., if any of this should be thought worthy of notice, (which we don't desire,) and as the issue of things is not absolutely certain, and this town the residence of the Governor, &c., please to let it stand as anonymous, and be entire, ending with "bleed and die together." The remainder you may do with as you please.

To John Scollay, Esq., Hon. John Hancock, Esq., and the rest of the Selectmen of the Town of Boston.



LETTER FROM NORWICH.

Norwich, August, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We received your kind favor of 11th ult., subscribed by S. Adams, in your behalf, in answer to ours respecting the small donation proposed by the inhabitants of this Town, for the employment or relief of such inhabitants of the Town of Boston as may become sufferers by means of the Boston Port Bill, part of which we now forward you per Messrs. Bishop, Call, Leffingwell, and Bishop, being two hundred and ninety-one sheep, which [we] wish safe to hand. What other collections may be made, shall forward hereafter. We should be glad to know, as nearly as

may be, the true state of affairs with you, (especially) if any thing materially different from what we see published in the weekly papers; and that you would write us per return of the gentlemen who drive the sheep.

We are, with much esteem, Gentlemen, your assured friends and fellow-countrymen, in behalf of the Committee,

CHRISTO. LEFFINGWELL.

To William Phillips, Esq., Merchant, Boston.

REPLY TO NORWICH.

Boston, August 27th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your letter, with the two hundred and ninety-one sheep, were received safely, and met with a very hearty welcome. We have good reason to think that our oppressors begin to see their mistake, and that they will ere long be convinced that Americans are not to be fritted or wheedled out of their rights. The arm of a tyrant is never supported by justice, and therefore must fall. Mr. Gage is executing the late Acts of Parliament, in their several branches, to the best of his ability. He is furnished with a council who will be careful (as their existence depends on the will of his master) to study his inclination, and to act every thing in conformity to his pleasure. We don't expect *justice* from them, and have no hopes that they will be guided by the laws of equity, or the dictates of conscience. Certainly men who will serve such an administration as the present, and suffer themselves to be promoted at the expense of the charter of their country, must be destitute of every idea of right, and ready instruments to introduce abject slavery. Mr. Gage may issue his precepts, and his council may sanctify them, his juries may give verdicts, and an unconstitutional and venal bench may pass judgments, but what will this avail, unless the *people* will acquiesce in them. If the *people* think them unconstitutional, of what importance are their determinations. *Salus populi suprema lex esto*, is a precious old maxim. The ministry have forgot it, but the people are determined to remember it.

We consider a suspension of trade through the continent with Great Britain, Ireland, and the West Indies, as the grand machine that will deliver us. If this should fail, we must then have recourse to the last resort. As yet we have been preserved from action with the soldiery, and we shall endeavor to avoid it until we see that it is necessary, and a settled plan is fixed on for that purpose. The late Acts of Parliament are such gross infringements on us, that our consciences forbid us to submit to them. We think it is better to put up with some inconvenience, and pursue with patience the plan of commercial opposition, as it will be more for the honor and interest of the continent, as well as more consistent with the principles of humanity and religion.

Mr. Gage finds himself very unequal to the task that is set him, and is at a loss for measures. He sees and is astonished at the spirit of the people. He forbids their town meetings, and they meet in counties. If he prevents county meetings, we must call provincial meetings, and if he forbid these, we trust that our worthy brethren on the continent, and especially of the Town of Norwich, in Connecticut, will lend us their helping arms in time of danger, and will be no less conspicuous for their fortitude than they now are for their generosity.

We have nothing important to inform you of besides what you see in the public papers. Should any thing worthy your notice take place, we shall gladly communicate it to you.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your grateful friends and humble servants,

JOSEPH WARREN, { Per order the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To the Gentlemen, the Committee of the Town of Norwich.



LETTER FROM GROTON.

Groton in Connecticut, 10th August, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

You have here inclosed, the Resolutions of this Town, which were unanimously agreed to. The inhabitants are

truly patriotic, and firmly fixed to assist and support their American brethren against all attacks made on the liberties of our Constitution. We, their Committee of Correspondence, have authority to assure you that the cause in which you are now suffering (under the tyranny of an unprecedented and cruel Act of Parliament) is here considered, *universally*, as an attack upon us all, though the vengeance of the present ministry is levied particularly at your Port and Province at this time. It gives us particular satisfaction to find so great a majority of true friends to American freedom in your patriotic Town, and that you persevere with such fortitude, under the persecuting hand of tyranny. It must be some alleviation, in your distress, to find your brethren in this and the other sister Colonies contributing to the relief of the indigent with you. We flatter ourselves no Colony will extend their liberality *to you* to exceed this, and it is with real satisfaction, we have the pleasure to inform you that the worthy inhabitants of this Town have subscribed to pay and deliver to us, sufficient to purchase one hundred and twenty fat sheep, and six fat cattle, to be forwarded to the Selectmen or Overseers of the Poor with you, to be by them distributed as their prudence shall direct. We shall therefore be glad to be informed at what time it will be most convenient for your people to receive said donation, which shall be sent you on advice. We promise ourselves (from many of the characters we see appointed to compose the intended Congress) that the most salutary plan will be recommended, and by us all religiously adhered to, which cannot fail to procure us relief from the oppression we are attacked and threatened with—as some with you, *no doubt*, would gladly suggest and propagate that Doct. Johnson, not accepting that important trust when he was appointed thereto, was that he disapproved of the method *for redress* we are pursuing. To give you authority to contradict such evil and ill-grounded insinuations, *if any*, we here inclose you the copy of a Letter one of your Committee lately received from the Clerk of our Colony's Committee of Correspondence, setting that matter in its true light.

The Committee of Correspondence have since appointed the Hon. Roger Sherman, Esq. to supply Doctor Johnson's place, and in case he cannot attend, Joseph Trumbull, Esq.

son of his Honor our Governor. We shall always think ourselves happy to contribute, to the utmost of our ability, whatever may be of service in the grand cause for which we now contend; and it will give us pleasure to correspond with you thereon.

Being with much esteem, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient, humble servants,

WILLIAM LEDYARD.
THOMAS MUMFORD.
BENADAM GALLUP.
AMOS PRENTICE.
CHARLES ELDRIDGE, JUN'R.
JOHN HURLBUT.
AMOS GEER.

To the Committee of Correspondence at Boston.

REPLY TO GROTON.

Boston, August 13th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Correspondence for this Town, handed to us, who are a Committee for receiving Donations and employing the suffering poor, by means of the Port Bill, your favors of the 10th inst., enclosing Mr. Silas Dean's letter, accounting for Dr. Johnson's declining to attend the Congress, which gives us satisfaction. And also the votes of the Town of Groton, which greatly refresh our spirits, and confirm us in our resolutions not tamely to resign any of the American rights. But it is our particular department to acknowledge, in behalf of this Town, our great obligations to our friends of Groton, for their generous subscriptions for the relief of our suffering poor, whose support must otherwise, at this time of general stagnation of business, have fallen extremely heavy upon those of property among us. We note your purpose to send us one hundred and twenty fat sheep and six fat

cattle, and desire to be informed at what time it will be most convenient to receive said donation. For answer, we would refer the time of receiving this generous and disinterested bounty of our friends, to their own convenience.

Be assured of our sincere prayers to the Sovereign Disposer of all events, that our benefactors at Groton and elsewhere may forever enjoy the rewards of the virtuous.

We are, your friends and humble servants,

NATH'L APPLETON.

William Ledyard, Esqr., of the Committee of Correspondence in Groton, Connecticut.



LETTER FROM BROOKLYN.

Brooklyn in Pomfret, August 11th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

With our hearts deeply impressed with the feelings of humanity towards our near and dear brethren of Boston, who are now suffering under a ministerial, revengeful hand, and at the same time full of gratitude to the patriotic inhabitants, for the noble stand which they have made against all oppressive innovations, and with unfeigned love for all British America, who must, if Boston is subjugated, alternately fall a prey to ministerial ambition, send you one hundred and twenty-five sheep, as a present from the inhabitants of the parish of Brooklyn, hoping thereby you may be enabled to stand more firm (if possible) in the glorious cause in which you are embarked, notwithstanding the repeated, unheard of daring attacks, which the British Parliament are making upon the rights which you ought to enjoy as English-born subjects; and if so, we shall of consequence contribute our mite towards the salvation of British America, which is all our ambition.

In zeal in our country's cause, we are exceeded by none; but our abilities and opportunities do not admit of our being of that weight in the American scale as we would to God we were.

We mean, in the first place, to attempt to appease the fire (raised by your committing the India Tea to the watery element as a merited oblation to Neptune) of an ambitious and vindictive minister, by the blood of rams and of lambs ; if that do not answer the end, we are ready to march in the van, and to sprinkle the American altars with our hearts' blood, if occasion should be.

The latent seeds of destruction which are implanted in the constitution of almost every state or empire, have grown in England, in these last nine years, with amazing rapidity, and now are mature for harvest ; and ere long we shall see reapers flocking from all parts of Europe, who will sweep their fields with the besom of destruction. This thought occasions a cloud of melancholy to arise in the breast of every descendant from Britain, which is only dissipated by the pleasing prospect every American has before him ! Here we have an unbounded, fertile country, worth contending for with blood ! Here bribery and corruption, which are certain forebodings of a speedy dissolution, are as yet only known by names. To us, ere long, Britain's glory will be transferred, where it will shine with accumulated brilliancy.

We cannot but rejoice with you, on account of the union and firmness of the Continent. The public virtue now exhibited by the Americans, exceeds all of its kind that can be produced in the annals of the Greeks and Romans. Behold them from North to South, from East to West, striving to comfort the Town of Boston, both by publishing their sentiments in regard to the present tyrannical administration, and by supporting their poor with provision, who, otherwise, in this present stagnation of business, would have reduced the opulent to a state of penury and despair in a short time.

You are held up as a spectacle to the whole world. All Christendom are longing to see the event of the American contest. And do, most noble citizens, play your part manfully, of which, we make no doubt, your names are either to be held in eternal veneration, or execration. If you stand out, your names cannot be too much applauded by all Europe, and all future generations, which is the

hearty desire and wish of us, who are, with utmost respect,
your most obedient and humble servants.

ISRAEL PUTNAM,	} <i>Committee of Corres-</i>	
JOSEPH HOLLAND,		<i>pondence for the</i>
DANIEL TYLER, JR.		<i>Parish of Brooklyn.</i>

To Samuel Adams, Esq., Chairman to the Committee of Correspondence, Boston.

[Per favor Colonel PUTNAM.]

REPLY TO BROOKLYN.

Boston, 22d August, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The unexampled charity and munificence with which this distressed Town hath been treated by their brethren of the continent, must strike Europe with astonishment, as it doth our enemies with dismay. And if the fatal day arrives when tyranny shall ride triumphant, and corruption pervade the American States, our posterity also will look on the history of these times with an eye of infidelity.

The hearts of our poor have been made to sing for joy, and the blessings of those who were ready to perish resteth upon you. Our gratitude to you, Gentlemen, and the rest of our many kind benefactors, will best be shown by a perseverance and fixedness in the great cause of truth, religion, God, and posterity. In the mean time, accept our thanks, as an earnest of our sincere gratitude and firm resolution.

We felicitate you, Gentlemen, that in your region bribery and corruption are as yet only *mere names*. Alas, with us, they walk in darkness, and waste at noonday. They are not only in the secret recesses of cowardly conspirators, but in the high places of elevated malefactors. Whenever a revenue-chest, a board of commissioners, and a band of pensioners, civil, military and ecclesiastical, shall be stationed in your happy land, you will then realize the public calamity and danger of this oppressed people.

Our trials and temptations are many and great. You have cherished us by your bounty, instructed us by your

advice, and supported us by your strongest influence. If we shall be pushed to a yet greater extremity, your sentiments are perfectly just, that, "If Boston is subjugated, all British America must fall." This sentiment cannot be spread too far and wide. It ought to be inculcated in season and out of season. The yoke of bondage is laid upon our necks; a yoke which neither we nor our fathers have borne. In matters of civil liberty and public oppression, all delay is fatal; the times call for very vigorous remedies. God grant that America may never see one Province after another plundered, slaughtered and ravaged with impunity.

We have the greater number of malignants of any one town on the continent, arising from the causes before hinted. But yet a few, very few comparatively, bowed the knee to Baal. A glorious number, we yet trust, will buckle their hearts to the breastplate, and join hand with the lance, before they will give up their birthright and the goodly heritage of our fathers.

You have stretched out to us the hand of your liberality. God reward you a thousand fold. Send up for us the prayers of your love; and may God in mercy answer them for good.

We are your obliged friends and countrymen,

NATH'L APPLETON, *per order.*

*Israel Putnam, Joseph Holland, Daniel Tyler, Jun.,
Committee of Correspondence for the parish of Brooklyn.*



LETTER FROM PRESTON.

Preston, Aug. 20th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

At this period of your suffering, and on the reception of your second and third unrighteous Acts of Parliament, usurping authority and oppressing your Town and Province, thereby furnishing a pretext for ruining all the Colonies, we are anxiously looking, that on some indispensable precaution on your part, some important event will take place. We wish you all the wisdom necessary to avoid the blow

which, through you, is levelled at this whole continent. We have an enemy to deal with, (Lord North,) that is very subtle in his wiles, like the enemy of our immortal part. It therefore becomes us to be watchful and continually on our guard, and there is great reason to fear that nothing short of another kind of resistance will regain and secure our privileges. Capt. William Belcher, who is one of our Committee, and a zealous friend to the liberties of this country, waits on you with this, and will acquaint you of the spirit of our people and give you a copy of the doings of our Town on the 11th of July last. He will also bring you a small sum of money, toward the relief of your poor. Our subscriptions are still out, and keep adding. They are not yet all collected. I suppose we shall, doubtless, make up about fifty pounds, lawful money. Our Town is small, but well affected in the common cause, and view you as now suffering under the tyranny of the English yoke. It has given us fresh alarm to hear that arms, &c., are not suffered to be brought out of your Town. [We would] be be glad [if] you would furnish us with intelligence of any new artifice of power, and likewise [of] the behavior of your Governor in his common deportment to the people.

We are, Gentlemen, your affectionate and sympathizing friends and countrymen, the Committee of Correspondence in behalf of the Town of Preston.

SAM'L MOTT, { Per order of
the Committee.

P. S.—We received your kind letter in answer to ours, per Jno. Tyler, Esq.

To the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO PRESTON.

Boston, August 24th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We received by Capt. Belcher, your letter of the 20th, and the sum of money you were kind enough to send, for the support of our poor. It gives us pleasure, amidst our sufferings, to find our brethren determined to assist and support us while we are struggling for American freedom.

Letter from Killingly.

Our enemies, we know, will use every artifice that hell can suggest and human power can execute, to enslave us, but we are determined not to submit. We choose to effect our salvation from bondage by policy, rather than by arms,—considering that the blood of freemen who fight for their country, is of more value than the blood of a soldiery who fight for pay. We doubt not but a virtuous continental adherence to a non-importation, non-exportation, and non-consumption agreement, will produce such changes in Britain, as will compel them to give us every thing we wish. But if *this* should fail, and we should be obliged to seek redress in the way you have hinted, we flatter ourselves that we shall act like *men*, and merit the approbation of all America. The conduct of our adversaries is to us astonishing. Policy is no more their guide than justice. They have shut their eyes against daylight, and if they lead the British nation into the pit they have digged for us, the blame must be laid at their own door. The motions of our Governor are like those of other machines—they move as they are directed. He is clad in the garb of ministerial instructions, and has declared his determination implicitly to obey them. We shall always receive with gratitude your advice and assistance, not doubting but the end of our warfare will be Freedom to America.

We are, with sincerity, Gentlemen, your very humble servants,

J. WARREN, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

P. S.—The arms have been several times detained in going out of town, but never finally stopt; even if a private gentleman carries one out of town with him for diversion, he is not permitted to bring it back again.

To the Gentlemen, the Committee of the Town of Preston.



LETTER FROM KILLINGLY.

Killingly, Aug. 23d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Town of Killingly, sympathizing with their brethren and fellow-patriots of the Town of Boston, who

are now suffering in the glorious cause of liberty, by reason of that unconstitutional and oppressive Port Bill, for blocking up your harbor, espouse the cause in which you suffer, and are sensibly affected therewith. We flatter ourselves that these few sheep may be received as a token of gratitude, which not only we, but a whole continent, owe to you, who have so eminently exerted yourselves in the cause of liberty. The noble and resolute stand you have made, in favor of the mutual interest of the Colonies, has given us, as also every friend of liberty, the highest esteem and most unfeigned regard for your patriotism. And our gratitude we cannot more fully express, than by such acts of kindness and benevolence. It is to such as you, under God, we owe the glory of our liberty. We lament the oppression you meet with, yet rejoice that neither the threats or caresses of the mighty are sufficient to taint your virtue, or stifle the ardor which glows in your bosoms. May you resolutely stand fast in the liberty in which the God of nature has made you free, and may your patriotic virtues shine with increasing lustre, and your influence be as extensive as your generous wishes.

We assure you, in the name of this Town, that we are well united, and it is the determination and sentiment of our people to maintain their privileges at the risk of their lives and fortunes; and we hope we shall be always ready to contribute, as far as lies in our power, to the necessities of those more immediately called to suffer in the cause.

Finally, may we all be united, and we and you see the happy time when Parliament and Liberty meet together, and Britain and America kiss each other, to the joy and satisfaction of every son of Liberty, and the amazement and confusion of all those who wish not well to our political welfare. These are the undissembled wishes and desires of, Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

BRIANT BROWN,	} <i>Committee of Correspondence for Killingly.</i>
EBEN'R LARNED,	
BENJA. LEAVENS,	
PERLEY HOWE,	

*To William Phillips, Esq. and company,
Overseers of the Poor of Boston.*

LETTER FROM EAST HADDAM.

East Haddam, Aug. 24th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Town of East Haddam, in the Colony of Connecticut, taking into their serious consideration, in a legal town meeting, the alarming and distressed circumstances that the inhabitants of the Town of Boston are brought into, by the very extraordinary Acts of the British Parliament, in blocking the Town and Port, whereby many of your industrious inhabitants are deprived of the means of providing their daily support, and will necessarily bring a very great burthen on the said Town, while they are suffering in the common cause of all America: and, being fully convinced that it is the determination of the British Parliament, in course, to attack all the Provinces and Colonies on the continent of British America, unless they submit to a Parliamentary Tax, &c., think it their duty to do every thing in their power to maintain their liberties and privileges, which they ever ought to have and enjoy as English subjects; in which opinion the inhabitants of this Town are agreed, almost to a man, and as you are the first that are attacked, as the head of all America, and so more immediately suffering, yet all the members in a greater or lesser degree are suffering with you, though not in the means of their present support and subsistences. Under which circumstances the Town of East Haddam, though a small Town, thought it their duty to contribute their mite for the relief of your poor, and thought fit to recommend a subscription for said purpose, and appointed us, the subscribers, a Committee to receive and transmit the same to the Overseers of the Poor of Boston. In pursuance of which, we have collected a few cattle and sheep, which are the free gift of said Town of East Haddam, by subscription, without any reward, or hopes thereof, (as our enemies would insinuate,) which we have committed to the care of Mr. Israel Champion, of said East Haddam, to be transmitted to said Overseers, for them to see used and improved as they see cause, for the purpose aforesaid, hoping that the same will be received, (though a small gift,) as a sincere

mark of our regard and friendship in the general cause of English liberty.

We are, Gentlemen, with the utmost esteem and regard, your most obedient, humble servants,

DANIEL BRAINERD,
HUMPHRY LYON.
SILVANUS TINKER.
GIBBONS JEWETT.
ICHABOD OLMSTED.
CHRISTOPHER HOLMES.

To the Overseers of the industrious Poor of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO EAST HADDAM.

Boston, September 1, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Town of East Haddam, in their letter of the 24th August, discover such a cordial sympathy for our distress, and give such a pleasing proof of their resolution to assist us, as makes us more than ever determined to support our sufferings with a philosophic fortitude. Boston is the stage on which our tyrants choose to act at present, but how soon they will choose to figure in some spot where they have a greater probability of success, time only will discover. We hope, however, to convince them that not only Boston, but all America is designed by Heaven for an asylum for oppressed and injured virtue, rather than to be a theatre of sport for usurping despots. The late Acts of Parliament are cruel and oppressive, to the last degree. That for blockading our harbor is perhaps without a parallel, but we are nevertheless of opinion that they have operated for our advantage. Our enemies imagined that by exhibiting to our view some signal instances of their immediate power to distress us, we should be intimidated, that we should submit to kiss the rod, and beg them to accept of our obedience. They now see that we are neither to be persuaded nor frightened from that standard which we are most sacredly bound to protect. They have done their utmost, and it is ineffectual. In policy we flatter ourselves they have not

exceeded us. Arms are as yet untried. There was a time when some *good* men among us were insensible of their danger, and seemed to prefer obscurity to action; but the late manœuvres of tyranny have roused them from their lethargy, and they now pant for the field in which the fate of our country is to be decided.

Nothing has so damped the spirits of those who aspire to be our masters, as the accounts we are daily receiving of the glorious spirit that inspires the different parts of the continent. Some have believed, or have pretended to believe, that if the faction in Boston was quelled, the Provinces would acquiesce in whatever changes Administration were pleased to make in the charter and constitution of the Massachusetts Bay. But now they see that a firm bond is formed in America, which the most powerful monarch on earth will not easily break.

You will be pleased to accept our most hearty wishes for a continuance of your friendship; and gratitude and justice oblige us to tell you, that the Colony of Connecticut have behaved to us like brothers, and signalized themselves in the cause of American liberty in such a manner as will redound to their honor, so long as the sun and moon endure.

The generous benefaction from the town of East Haddam, so modestly mentioned in your letter, excite those emotions which the grateful hearts of their brethren here can better conceive than express.

We are, Gentlemen, with sincerity,
Your much obliged servants,

JOSEPH WARREN, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Mr. Daniel Brainerd, and others of the Committee of East Haddam.



LETTER FROM QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY.

Maryland, Queen Ann's County, 27th Aug., 1774.

SIR,

You will herewith receive one thousand bushels of corn, to be applied towards the relief of the unhappy peo-

ple of Boston, suffering by means of the late unconstitutional and oppressive Acts of Parliament.

Signed by order of the Committee of Correspondence.

JAMES EARLE, *Clerk.*

To John Barrett, Esq.

REPLY TO QUEEN ANN'S COUNTY.

Boston, October 4th, 1774.

SIR,

Your favor dated Queen Ann's County, 27th August last, with a bill of lading for one thousand bushels of corn, was lately handed to the Committee of Donations, by John Barrett, Esq. of this place. The generous and seasonable supplies from our worthy friends and fellow-countrymen in Maryland, have greatly refreshed our spirits, relieved the necessities of our poor, suffering by means of the cruel Boston Port Bill, and inspired us with renewed zeal in the all important cause in which you and we are so deeply engaged. Our distresses and daily trials are great, and as we have such mighty powers armed and arming against us, and as their resentment is equal in degree to their policy and craft, 'tis easy to conceive that we must be frequently much embarrassed; but, through the favor of our God, we have hitherto been helped, directed and encouraged. Through his gracious assistance we are determined to persevere in a firm, manly, steady opposition to such unrighteous decrees, as the enemies of the civil and religious liberties not only of this Town and Province, but of this whole continent, are endeavoring effectually to carry into execution. Our truly patriotic friends and brethren in Maryland, will unite their humble and daily supplications with ours to God, that he will sanctify these afflictions to us, and in due time grant us the temporal, spiritual, and eternal salvation which we so greatly need. The grateful acknowledgments of this Committee, in behalf of the Town, are hereby tendered by

Sir, your very obliged, humble servants,

DAVID JEFFRIES, *per order.*

Mr. James Earle, Maryland, Queen Ann's County.

LETTER FROM KENT COUNTY.

*Kent County, Chestertown, Maryland,
Aug. 29th., 1774.*

SIR,

Inclosed you have bill of lading for two thousand bushels of Indian corn, shipped by the Committee of Correspondence for this County, on board the schooner Endeavour, Capt. Harding, for the use of the poor of your Town, and also bills of lading for one thousand bushels shipped on board said vessel, by the Committee of Correspondence for Queen Ann's County. The Committee would have sent this relief long ago, but no vessel could be procured sooner. I hope it will arrive in good order,

And am, Sir, your most humble servant,

THOS. SMYTH.

To Jno. Barrett, Esq.

REPLY TO KENT COUNTY.

Boston, October 6th, 1774.

SIR,

Your obliging letter, dated Chestertown, Maryland, August 29th, directed to John Barrett, Esq. of this Town, has by him been handed to the Committee of Donations. We have received the generous and very seasonable present of two thousand bushels corn, per Capt. Harding, from our patriotic brethren of Chestertown. Such friendly supplies greatly assist and encourage us to persevere in a manly, but resolute defence of the glorious cause of true constitutional freedom and liberty. We meet with great opposition, and not less trials of our prudence, moderation, patience, and resolution; but we do not mean to boast, for in what degree soever we have been called and assisted to the exercise of these excellent graces, the whole glory must be given to God our Saviour, who hath hitherto helped us, and *enabled us to stand*. In him we desire to place our whole trust and confidence; to him let us unitedly and constantly repair for all the mercy we need, and

in the use of all proper means, hope and quietly wait for his salvation.

Had it not been for the kind interposition and liberality of our friends and fellow-countrymen, we must have suffered much, beyond what we do at present; but their bounty, springing from the noble principles of Christian sympathy, compassion and benevolence, gives double vigor to our spirits and deeply affects us (as it ought) with gratitude to God, and to them. You will please, therefore, to accept our grateful acknowledgments in behalf of this oppressed Town, for these their expressions of kindness and love, and may God reward them a thousand fold.

I am, Sir, your greatly obliged servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

Thomas Smyth, Esq., Chestertown, Maryland.

P. S.—The Committee of Donations have been requested by Capt. Richard Harding, to supply him with four pounds ten shillings sterling, for which he draws upon his owner, Mr. James Bradick, of Miles River, Maryland; of which you will please to make such use as you may think proper. The Committee have also paid Capt. Harding his account of expenses, amounting to [] Inclosed is the Captain's bill upon his owner.

Boston, Sept. 23d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

This will be delivered you per Capt. Harding, who has brought for the use of the poor of Boston, sufferers by the Port Bill, three thousand bushels of corn from the patriotic inhabitants of the Town of Chester, Kent County, and Queen Ann's County, Maryland. Your very kind and repeated offers of service on these occasions, embolden us to request any needed advice and assistance to the captain. All charges shall be repaid by him who, in behalf of the Committee of Donations, is,

Gentlemen, your very obliged, humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, *per order.*

To Jeremiah Lee and Azor Orne, Esqrs., and Mr. Elbridge Gerry, at Marblehead.

LETTER FROM NORTHAMPTON, VIRGINIA.¹

Virginia, Northampton, Aug. 30th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The people of this County, compassionating the distressed poor in your Town, have directed us to ship you one thousand bushels of Indian corn, to be distributed by you amongst such families as you shall think most in want

¹ The Virginia House of Burgesses was in session when the news of the passage of the Boston Port Bill was received; and on the 24th of May, 1774, it passed a preamble expressing the "apprehension of the great dangers to be derived to British America from the hostile invasion of the city of Boston," and stating that the House deem it highly necessary that the first day of June next be set apart by the members, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer; and adopted the following order:

Ordered, therefore, That the members of this House do attend in their places, at the hour of ten in the forenoon, on the said first day of June next, in order to proceed, with the Speaker and the mace, to the church of this city, for the purposes aforesaid; and that the Reverend Mr. Price be appointed to read prayers, and to preach a sermon suitable to the occasion.

By the House of Burgesses.

GEORGE WYTHE, C. H. B.

On the 26th of May, the Virginia House of Burgesses was dissolved by the Royal Governor. Eighty-nine of the members, on the next day, formed an Association to second unity of action, in the articles of which they state: "We are further clearly of opinion, that an attack made on one of our sister Colonies, to compel submission to arbitrary taxes, is an attack made on all British America, and threatens ruin to the rights of all, unless the united wisdom of the whole be applied." On the 29th of May, "letters were received by express from Boston, Philadelphia, and Annapolis in Maryland, testifying the resentment of those different places, and the Northern Provinces in general, against the late oppressive Act of the British Parliament, which is intended so materially to injure the Port of Boston, and recommending an union of measures to their Southern brethren;" when the members of the House of Burgesses, who were in Williamsburg, were convened by Peyton Randolph. They resolved to call as many other members as could be assembled, to meet on the next day, the 30th. On this day it was resolved to defer further action until the general meeting of the House of Burgesses to be held on the first of August.

The following paragraph appears in the journals, under the date of Williamsburg, June 1, 1774: "On the first of June, the Honorable the Speaker, and as many of the members of the late Assembly as were in town, with the citizens of Williamsburg, and numbers from a distance, assembled at the Court House, and went in procession to the church, where an excellent sermon, well adapted to the present unhappy disputes between Great Britain and her Colonies, was preached by the Rev. Mr. Price, chaplain to the House of Burgesses, agreeable to the late order of that patriotic and very respectable body."

Meetings, in July, were held in the Counties of Virginia, to consider the Port Bill. At a meeting of "the Freeholders of James City County," on the 1st of July, it was "*Resolved*, That a subscription paper be handed about among the people of James City, to raise money, corn, wheat, or any other commodity which

of it. The bearer hereof, Capt. Nathaniel Brown, will deliver you the corn, whose bill lading for the same you have inclosed, the freight for which will be paid here, upon his producing your receipt for the corn. The people in this place most sincerely sympathize with their brethren in

may be most agreeable to the subscribers, for the relief of the people of Boston."

A letter to a citizen of Boston, dated Alexandria, July 6, 1774, states that a subscription for the relief of Boston, "to prevent the inhabitants sinking under the oppression, or migrating, to keep up that manly spirit which has made them dear to every American, though the envy of our arbitrary Parliament, is from the County of Fairfax, in this Colony: viz. 273 pounds sterling in specie, (equal to lawful,) 38 barrels of flour, and 150 bushels of wheat. This subscription being but a few days on foot, we have not had an opportunity to present it to the Country in general; a large sum will be given. Mr. Henley yesterday returned from Dumfries, after consulting the Committee of Prince William County, in which a subscription is going on generously; this day he sets out to consult the Committees of Loudon and Frederick Counties, in each of which a spirit, becoming generous and free-born sons of liberty, are in the like manner testified. Indeed, all Virginia and Maryland, are contributing for the relief of Boston."

At a meeting of the citizens of Norfolk County and Borough, on the 6th of July, it was "*Resolved*, That our late Burgesses be hereby instructed to use their utmost endeavors, that subscriptions be opened in the several Counties of this Colony, for the relief of the starving, distressed poor, in the blockaded Town of Boston." On the 9th of July, the citizens of Fauquier County "*Resolved*, That the Town of Boston, aforesaid, is now suffering in the common cause of American liberty, and ought to be supplied with such articles as are necessary for their support, by the voluntary contributions of the Colonies in general." On the same day, the citizens of Essex County "*Resolved*, That a subscription be set on foot for raising provisions for the poor of Boston;" appointed a Committee to receive them, and empowered this Committee to charter a vessel to carry them to Boston.

The citizens of Henrico County, on the 15th of July, at a meeting held at the Court House, adopted an address to their representatives in the Virginia Assembly, in which was the following: "We most cordially recommend that no time be lost in administering every comfort and aid to our distressed brethren of Boston, that their unhappy state may require, and may comport with our situation to afford." On the 16th of July, the inhabitants of Surry County "*Resolved*, That subscriptions be opened in this County, for the relief of our suffering brethren in the Town of Boston." On the 18th of July, a general meeting of the inhabitants of Fairfax County was held at Alexandria, of which "GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire," was chairman; when it was "*Resolved*, "That the inhabitants of Boston were suffering in the common cause of all British America, and are justly entitled to its support and assistance; and, therefore, that a subscription ought immediately to be opened, and proper persons appointed, in every County in this Colony, to purchase provisions and consign them to some gentlemen of character in Boston, to be distributed among the poorer sort of people there." GEORGE WASHINGTON was also appointed chairman of the County Committee; and one of the Delegates to present the Resolves to the General Assembly. The following appeared in the journals, under the date of Williamsburg, July 28, 1774: "It is with much pleasure we learn that the County of Surry, from the highest to the lowest, are actuated by the warmest affections towards the suffering Town of Boston. We are told that immediately after the breaking up of the meeting of the freeholders and others, to consult

Boston, in their present distress, and will at all times cheerfully join in every measure proposed for their relief. Such considerable collections are making in this Colony for your poor, that we hope they will not suffer for want of provisions, and we rely on the firmness of your people in adher-

upon the most proper measures to be taken, upwards of one hundred and fifty barrels of Indian corn and wheat were subscribed, and that twelve or thirteen subscription papers are now out for that purpose. Upon a moderate computation, our correspondent informs us, eleven or twelve hundred barrels, of different commodities, will be produced by this County, for the benefit of those firm and intrepid sons of liberty, the Bostonians. It would be needless to recognize the particular generosity of each County in this Colony, as the public must be very well acquainted, from the many resolves which have been published, that all Virginia are unanimous in their endeavors to contribute whatever relief or assistance may be in their power."

On the 18th of July, the inhabitants of the County of York "*Voted*, That a subscription be immediately opened for the relief of the inhabitants of Boston, under the direction of the Deputies for this County, who are desirous to promote and encourage the same." On the 20th of July, the inhabitants of Stafford County "*Resolved*, That it is the duty of this Colony to contribute, as far as their power extends, to the relief of the inhabitants of Boston, who are now, by the hard hand of oppression, marked out as the victims of ministerial wrath, for their spirited exertions in the great cause of American freedom, and that subscriptions be immediately set on foot for their relief, under the conduct of the Committee." On the 25th of July, the inhabitants of Elizabeth City County "*Resolved*, That a subscription for the relief of the unhappy poor of Boston, ought to be encouraged by all charitable and humane people, and that the moderator be directed to solicit contributions for that purpose." On the 27th of July, the inhabitants of Princess Anne County "*Resolved*, That our Burgesses be hereby instructed to use their utmost endeavors, that subscriptions be opened in the several Counties of this Colony, for the relief of the cruelly oppressed and distressed inhabitants of the Town of Boston."

On the 1st of August, "at a very full meeting of delegates from the Counties in the Colony and Dominion of Virginia," at Williamsburg, it was "*Resolved*, That we think ourselves called upon, by every principle of humanity and brotherly affection, to extend the utmost and speediest relief to our distressed fellow-subjects in the town of Boston; and, therefore, most earnestly recommend it to all the inhabitants of this Colony, to make such liberal contributions as they can afford, to be collected and remitted to Boston, in such manner as may best answer so desirable a purpose."

The Essex Gazette of August 2, 1774, has the following paragraph: "Captain Leighton, from Virginia, informs, that he was told by some respectable gentlemen, that there would be sixty thousand bushels of grain sent from that Colony by the 10th of September, all freely given by that generous, patriotic people, for the support of their distressed brethren in Boston. It was said that thirty thousand bushels would also be given and sent by the worthy people of Maryland, for the same noble purpose."—ED.

At a Convention of the Delegates for the Counties of Virginia, the following Resolve was passed, on the 24th March, 1775: "*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Committees of the several Counties and Corporations in this Colony, do exert themselves in procuring and continuing contributions, for supplying the necessities, and alleviating the distresses, of our brave and worthy fellow-subjects of Boston, now suffering in the common cause of American freedom, in such manner, and so long as their occasions may require."

ing to the glorious cause in which they are engaged, till it pleases Providence to restore them to the possession of their just rights, and establish the liberties of all America on the most permanent foundation.

We are, most sincerely, Gentlemen,

Your very humble servants,

JNO. HARMAINSON.
LITTLETON SAVAGE.
JOHN KENDALL.

To the Committee appointed to receive Donations for the distressed inhabitants of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO NORTHAMPTON.

Boston, Sept. 30th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee appointed to receive and distribute the donations of our brethren in this and the neighboring Colonies, received your favors 30th August per Capt. Nath'l Brown, with about one thousand bushels of Indian corn, as a present from our worthy brethren in Northampton, Virginia, to the poor of this Town, suffering by the cruel blockade of our harbor. This Committee, in behalf of the Town, return their most sincere thanks to the gentlemen in Northampton, who have so generously contributed to this timely donation. Every fresh supply from our friends encourages all ranks of people firmly to support the cause for which we are struggling. Had not a spirit of patriotism, generosity and goodness appeared in a most extraordinary manner throughout these American Colonies, this Town, it is to be feared, must have fallen a sacrifice to arbitrary power, and submitted to the most humiliating concessions. But we have the pleasure to inform you that the patriots and defenders of American rights in this place, are as firm and zealous as ever, though surrounded on every hand by soldiers and military preparations; the harbor filled with ships of war; the chief fortress, Castle

William, out of our hands ; soldiers encamped in sundry places ; the Neck, the only entrance into the Town, doubly fortified by advance batteries, and a regiment encamped both sides of the road to prevent the aid of our neighbors, who, upon a late alarm showed the utmost readiness to encounter every danger for our relief and defence. We are daily alarmed with hostile appearances. It is now said they intend to erect five batteries, and to picquet the Town at the westerly side, to prevent the landing of our friends from the country. But we are determined to bear *all*, rather than in the least instance acknowledge the right of Parliament to mutilate our charter or form of government, and tax us at their pleasure. We observe in your letter, that considerable collections are making in your Colony for our poor. In confidence of this, our laborers and mechanics have universally declined assisting the army in carrying on their works, though tempted with large rewards ; not that they desire to be maintained in idleness, for they are ready for any employment the Committee can find them. For particulars in this respect, [we] refer you to the Committee's publication last week. Conscious that our cause is just, we trust in the Supreme Ruler of the universe, that he will in due time restore us to the possession of all our rights, and establish the liberties of all America on solid and lasting foundations.

We are, with the greatest esteem, Gentlemen,

Your friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, } Per order the Commit-
tee of Donations.

P. S.—You have doubtless heard that all our powder, in the Charlestown magazine, about three hundred barrels, has been seized and removed, and the magazine in this Town, belonging to the Province, taken possession of by the soldiery, and all private powder prohibited, all cannon and shot they can lay hold on secured ; but we trust the neighboring Colonies have full supply, in case of need, which God forbid.

LETTER TO THE COMMITTEE.¹*Marblehead, 3d Sept. 1774.*

GENTLEMEN,

We inclose you Capt. Ayer's receipt, for all the provisions per Capt. Thompson, except the corn, which is in the store of the first subscriber, according to desire of Mr. Appleton. The receipt is not properly drawn, but we apprehend no inconvenience will attend it, and Capt. Ayers has generously contracted to take nothing for the freight up. The expenses attending unlading and relading cargo, &c., are 41/1, and we wish this and such further supplies may come to your hands, as will disconcert the unhuman

¹ The following letter from William Cooper to a gentleman in New York, is copied from *Force's Archives*, vol. i. p. 784:—

Boston, September 12, 1774.

SIR:—Last week I received your favor of the 26th ultimo, and showed your letter to some of the Committee appointed to receive donations and employ the poor. I have to observe that our streets are supported by a common tax, and that the Town did not pass any vote directing the Committee to lay out their money upon the streets, but left it entirely to their best judgment. Enclosed you have a list of the names of the gentlemen appointed by the Town for this important trust, who meet every day, *Saturday* and *Sunday* excepted. I am directed by them to give you the following account of their proceedings. The Committee, after several consultations, notified the inhabitants that they should attend at *Faneuil Hall*, every afternoon, for ten days, (Lord's day excepted,) for all classes of people, suffering by the Port Bill, to lay their circumstances before them, that they might be employed, if possible, in their several departments; accordingly, a great number appeared, of all classes of mechanics and laborers, but of the latter a much greater number, whose circumstances called for immediate relief. Several plans were proposed, but none that could be put into immediate execution, and employ the mere laborer so effectually, as mending the pavements, upon which it was proposed to the Selectmen, who are overseers of the streets, that if they would undertake to mend the streets, the Committee would assist them in paying part of the labor, out of the donations collected for the employment of the poor; which was agreed to, and a great number of our most indigent inhabitants enabled to earn their bread; but being sensible that the money thus laid out could not make any returns for future use, they have for some time desisted. The Committee procured leave from the Town to lay out a brick-yard upon the Neck, in which they employ upwards of eighty men a day in making bricks, which they are in hopes to sell for their cost. The Committee have agreed to build a house for sale, as soon as materials can be collected, and several vessels will be set up as soon as the ship-builders are out of some present employ, given them by private gentlemen, and the stocks shall be sufficient to undertake them; but, that the employment may be as universal as possible, the Committee have purchased a stock of wool, flax and cotton, to be distributed to all the spinners, and are erecting looms for weaving them into baizes and shirt-cloth; they also distribute leather to the shoemakers, and take their manufacture in pay, and with them, in part,

mischief plotted by lord North, against your worthy community, into an advantageous event.

We are truly, Gentlemen, your very humble servants,

AZOR ORNE.

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

To the Gentlemen the Committee of Donations.



NOTE TO THE COMMITTEE.

SAMUEL and JOSEPH SEWALL's compliments, with the inclosed, to the sufferers by the present oppressive measures in the Towns of Boston and Charlestown.

May wisdom, prudence and discretion, with firmness, influence the counsels and conduct of all engaged in the cause of liberty.

York, Sept. 5, 1774.

pay laborers. The Committee are in daily expectation of a quantity of nail-rods, with which they hope to employ most of the blacksmiths through the winter; and they have reason to expect a quantity of hemp, which will enable the rope-makers to recall their journeymen.

It is hoped this short account of the proceedings of the Committee of Donations will meet with the approbation of the donors.

It must be acknowledged the Committee are charged with an important and laborious trust; it is, therefore, requested that the most charitable construction may be put upon their conduct, by those abroad, as it is impossible that any stranger can be acquainted with the various difficulties that attend this business. As the Committee have no interest, but that of the public, to serve, they earnestly request the advice of all friends, respecting the discharge of their commission, and engage that every plan proposed shall have a serious attention. It may not be improper to observe, that the Committee have opened a regular set of books, in which they record all their proceedings, and give credit to the several Provinces, Towns, and particular persons from whom they receive any donations.

The Town of *Charlestown* being in the same predicament with this Town, it has been mutually agreed, that seven per cent. of all the donations should be delivered to the Town of *Charlestown*.

The number of persons, of all ranks, thrown out of employment, by the sudden and universal stagnation of business, is very great. The Committee confine their employ to such as are immediately affected by the Port Bill, while the regular overseers take the usual care of the town's poor.

I am, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM COOPER.

P. S.—The Committee are about publishing to the world an account of their proceedings thus far. If some part of your collections should be invested in iron-rods for nails, it would be agreeable to the Committee. Your care in collecting subscriptions for this distressed town, will be gratefully noticed and acknowledged.—ED.

LETTER FROM QUEBEC.

Quebec, 6th September, 1774.

SIR,

Out of humanity, and in compassion to the poor of your place, who must be sufferers in consequence of the present unhappy discord between the British Parliament and the Colonies, a small quantity of wheat has been collected by subscription in this Town, which I have, by the desire of the subscribers, shipped on board your brigantine *Susannah*, freight free, with Capt. Hewes's consent, as per inclosed bill of lading, and consigned to you, requesting that it may, by yourself (or such persons as may be appointed for that purpose) be distributed amongst the innocent and necessitous sufferers of the Town of Boston.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONAS CLARKE MINOT.

To Arnold Welles, Esq., Boston.

REPLY TO QUEBEC.

Boston, Oct. 10th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We received Mr. Minot's kind letter of the 6th September, together with the generous benefaction of the town of Quebec. We feel our breasts warm with gratitude to the inhabitants of that distant part of the continent, whose humanity has led them to compassionate, and whose charity has prompted them to relieve, the distressed poor of this oppressed Town. We hope that the benefit arising from our determined opposition to the cruel invasion of the rights of America, will extend to all who afford us assistance in this important struggle. The Colonies, if firmly united in all parts of the continent, may enjoy the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and transmit the same entire from one generation to another, in spite of all the powers on earth; and it affords us a satisfaction greater than language can express, to open our first public cor-

respondence with the Town of Quebec, upon an occasion which does them so much honor, and the remembrance of which must ever awaken our affection and esteem. This vast continent abounds with every thing which can supply the necessities, or contribute to the happiness, of the inhabitants. Whilst we stand compact, like a band of brothers, no proud invaders will be able to subdue us. The connection between us and Great Britain, whilst justice and moderation presided in their councils, was beneficial to both countries, and it grieves us to own (but truth demands the confession) that the plan pursued of late, by the British administration, seems not to be dictated either by equity or sound policy. The prosperity of the Colonies is an aggrandizement of Britain; she ought, therefore, to promote it; but instead thereof, the tendency of her measures is to reduce them to a state of slavery, and this is to be accomplished by creating divisions amongst them and using them as engines to beat down and destroy the liberties of each other, that so all may be an easy prey to tyranny and despotic power. But we bless God that the eyes of the Colonies are so far opened as to see the danger that threatens them, and to avoid the snare laid for their destruction. We hope that by mutual good offices the affection between us and our brethren in Canada, will strengthen daily, (and as we firmly trust that Heaven will not withhold its support from a brave and virtuous people, contending for their rights against oppression and lawless rapacity,) we do, under all our sufferings, console ourselves by an anticipation of that glorious period, when the peaceful millions of this New World shall quietly enjoy the invaluable blessings of civil and religious liberty, which we are now so loudly called upon to defend. We shall always rejoice in the felicity of our friends in Canada, and shall think ourselves happy in keeping up a brotherly correspondence with them.

We are, Gentlemen, your obliged friends and humble servants.

[*No Signature.*]

P. S.—Arnold Welles, Esq., the owner of the vessel, has generously given the freight, for which the Committee, in behalf of the Town, are greatly obliged to him.

Mr. Jonas Clarke Minot, Quebec.

LETTER FROM WOODSTOCK.

Woodstock, Sept. 12th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Town of Woodstock, to testify to you the grateful sense they have of the obligations they are under to the worthy inhabitants of the Town of Boston, for their inviolable attachment to and perseverance in the noble and important cause of American Liberty, and that we are not unmindful of their sufferings and distresses, which they have endured, in consequence of their unshaken fortitude and fixed resolution to maintain and defend the constitutional rights of every American, have collected a small donation for the relief of your poor, which will be delivered you by Capt. Lyon, and shall, with the utmost cheerfulness, repeat it as often as the circumstances of your people shall require.

Frequently have you been called upon by the enemies of our liberties, during the convulsive struggles between Great Britain and America, to show your virtue and fortitude, and as frequently have you manifested to the world your willingness to suffer any thing that ministerial vengeance can impose upon you, rather than give up our liberties, and tamely submit to have every thing that is dear and valuable wrested from us. We had a meeting of delegates from the Committees of Correspondence in the several Towns in the Counties of New London and Windham, convened at Norwich, on the eighth day of September inst., the doings of which will be communicated to you by the Chairman of said Convention,—would only assure you that the greatest harmony and unanimity of sentiment appeared in all our debates and proceedings; and let us say that the cheek of every member glowed with resentment and martial fire. The spirit and resolution of our people in this part of the country, was manifested very evidently on the late alarm. Not a man appeared among us but was willing, with the utmost alacrity, to fly to your relief. And you may most assuredly rely upon it, that not only the people in this town, but in all this part of the country, are to a man resolutely determined to yield you all the assist-

ance in our power, and are willing to sacrifice all that is dear and valuable to us, rather than suffer the patriotic inhabitants of the Town of Boston to be overwhelmed by the adversaries of American liberty. We cannot but hope that we shall soon have an opportunity to congratulate you on the redress of all our grievances. May the time come, Gentlemen, and that shortly, when you and all the other friends of America in Boston, shall receive the reward of all your sufferings. May your names be ever held dear and sacred by the present age, and may posterity never cease to sound forth your praises to the latest generations.

We would not trouble you any further, Gentlemen, at this time, but only to wish, and earnestly pray, that the Supreme Being would crown with desired success your ardent endeavors, and noble exertions in the glorious cause in which you are so heartily engaged; it being no less a cause than the defence of the liberties of millions of free-born sons of America.

And are, Gentlemen, your assured friends and very humble servts.,

NATHANIEL CHILD,	} <i>Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Woodstock.</i>
ELISHA CHILD,	
JEDEDIAH MORSE,	
CHAS. CHURCH CHANDLER,	
SAML. McCLELLAN,	

To the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO WOODSTOCK.

Boston, Sept. 15th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee appointed by this Town to receive and distribute donations that may be sent in for the relief of the poor, suffering by means of the cruel and oppressive Port Bill, have this day received, through the Committee of Correspondence, your favors of the 12th instant.

This Committee, with admiration and gratitude, notice the virtue and generous spirit that animates the breasts of our brethren through the continent. The Town of Wood-

stock have expressed such favorable sentiments of this Town as lays us under particular obligations to persevere in a firm opposition to the attempts of arbitrary power, and they may depend on our utmost endeavors to hand down inviolable, to posterity, all those religious and civil liberties which we received as a fair inheritance from our venerable ancestors.

With unfeigned thankfulness we acknowledge the receipt of sixty-five sheep, by the hands of our worthy friend, Capt. Lyon,—a generous and timely present from our brethren of Woodstock. We heartily wish you all temporal and spiritual blessings, and that this instance of disinterested love may be rewarded a thousand fold into your bosoms. While we partake of your bounties, we doubt not we have your unceasing prayers to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, that we and all America may speedily be restored to the enjoyment of those rights which the iron hand of power is wresting from us, and, in the meanwhile, graciously directed and strengthened, our best abilities are, and will be employed in the distribution of this and every donation to the suffering poor, to quiet their minds in this day of trial. They are numerous, and we are inventing every method to employ them.

Be assured that we are, with the greatest respect and obligations, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, *per order.*

To Mr. Nath'l. Child and others, Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Woodstock.



LETTER FROM KINGSTON.¹

Kingston, Sept. 14th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The inhabitants of Kingston, in the Province of New Hampshire, see with deep concern the unhappy misunderstanding and disagreement that now subsists between

¹ The Boston Gazette of May 23, 1774, names Portsmouth among the Towns which had, "thus early, assured" the people of Boston of their sympathy, and it printed the following extract from a letter from the Portsmouth Committee

Great Britain and these American Colonies, being fully sensible that the happiness of both countries depend on an union, harmony, and agreement to be established between them on a just, equitable, and permanent foundation. But when we consider the new, arbitrary, and unjust claims of our brethren in Great Britain, to levy taxes upon us at their sovereign will and pleasure, and to make laws to bind us in all cases, whatsoever, we view and consider ourselves and our posterity under the operations of these claims, as absolute slaves; for what is a slave, but one who is bound in all cases whatsoever by the will and command of another. And we look on the late unjust, cruel, hostile, and tyrannical Acts of the British Parliament, respecting the Massachusetts Bay in general, and the Town of Boston in particular, as consequences of these unrighteous claims, and from them clearly see what the whole continent has to expect under their operation.

But when we consider the military forces, both by sea and land, sent in an hostile manner to enforce, with the point of the sword, and mouths of cannon, those acts and claims, we esteem it an high infringement of your rights

of Correspondence, dated May 19, to the Boston Committee: "We think the late Act of Parliament, to shut up the Port of Boston, of a most extraordinary nature and fatal tendency; administration are taking every method to disunite the Colonies, thereby to render the noble opposition to their arbitrary and destructive measures abortive; we hope a firm union of all the Colonies will still subsist; and that such a plan may be devised, and resolutely pursued by all, as may prevent the cruel effects of this Act. We heartily sympathize with you, under your present difficult and alarming situation. We will exert ourselves to carry any plan into effect which may be concerted by the Colonies for the general relief. We sincerely wish you resolution and prosperity in the common cause, and shall ever view your interest as our own, and are, with the highest esteem, &c."

The New Hampshire Gazette of July 22, 1774, has the following: "United we stand—divided we fall. Yesterday met at Exeter, the Delegates from the several Towns in this Province, to choose two or more persons to join the general Congress;" and the next issue has the proceedings of this Convention. Eighty-five delegates were present, and John Wentworth was Moderator. It was "*Voted, unanimously*, That the Deputies recommend it to their respective Towns, to take into consideration the distressed, unhappy condition of the Town of Boston, and liberally to contribute towards the relief of the poor of that Town, according to the noble and laudable example of their sister Colonies."

On the 19th of September, the Town of Portsmouth chose a Committee "to receive donations for the industrious poor of the Town of Boston." The Boston Gazette of October 17, has the following paragraph: "At a legal town meeting, held at Portsmouth on Monday last, it was voted that £200 be paid by the Selectmen to the Committee in Boston, for the use of the suffering poor in this Town."

Governor Wentworth, under the date of Portsmouth, November 15, 1774,

and privileges, and an insult upon all North America, and are fully persuaded that unless there is a speedy alteration of those measures, a total disaffection will soon take place, and Britain, instead of being our best friend, will be looked upon as an enemy; and then a final separation in all respects will no doubt soon follow, the thoughts of which fill our minds with trouble, anxiety, and concern.

We wish the Town of Boston, wisdom and prudence to conduct them, in these trying and critical times, and that their struggle for liberty may be crowned with abundant success. We look on the cause in which you are engaged as a common cause, and that we and our posterity are equally interested with you in the event. We beg leave to assure you that this Town will readily assist the Town of Boston, to the utmost of their ability, in every prudent measure that may be taken for regaining their just rights and privileges from all unjust invaders. We heartily sympathize with the poor of the Town of Boston, under their present distresses, and as an earnest of our readiness to assist you, this Town have contributed and sent by the bearers hereof, one hundred sheep as a present for their

wrote as follows to the Earl of Dartmouth: "At an adjournment of a town meeting in Portsmouth, in October last, fifty-two voters reconsidered a vote of fifty-six voters in a previous meeting, 'not to grant the town monies for a donation to Boston; but that a voluntary subscription be opened for that purpose.' This lesser number granted two hundred pounds, proclamation money, which is near four times their province tax."—*Belknap's New Hampshire*, vol. iii. p. 325.

The New Hampshire Gazette of November 4, has the following paragraph: "We are informed, that at a full meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, held at the town house in said Town, on Monday last, (called for that purpose,) they '*Voted, nem. con.*, That the sum of one hundred pounds, lawful money, be paid by the Selectmen of said Town, for the relief of the poor in the Town of Boston, now suffering by a cruel, arbitrary Act of the British Parliament.'"

At a Convention of Deputies appointed by the Towns of New Hampshire, held at Exeter, on the 25th of January, 1775, when one hundred and forty-four were present, an Address was adopted, "To the inhabitants of the Province of New Hampshire," in which was the following recommendation: "That as the inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, are now laboring under a load of ministerial vengeance, laid upon them to enforce obedience to certain arbitrary and unconstitutional Acts, which, if once submitted to, must involve all America in slavery and ruin; conscious that all these Colonies are largely indebted to the virtue and fortitude of those patriotic asserters of freedom, we heartily recommend a continuance of your contributions for the relief of that oppressed people; and that you keep yourselves in constant readiness to support them in their just opposition, whenever necessity may require."—*Ed.*

relief, to be disposed of for their use, in such way and manner as you shall think best.

We are, in behalf of the donors,

Your most obedient humble servants,

JACOB HOOKE.

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

THOS. BACHELLER.

JNO. CALEF.

DAVID QUINBY.

NATH'L BACHELLER.

WILLOT PETERSON.

JNO. HUNTOON, JUN.

JOSIAH BACHELDER.

To the Overseers of the Town of Boston.

[Received but ninety sheep.]

REPLY TO KINGSTON.

Boston, Sept. 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee appointed by this Town to receive and distribute the donations that may be sent in for the relief of the poor, suffering by the oppressive Port Bill, have this day received your favors of the 14th inst., accompanying a very generous and timely present of one hundred sheep, from the respectable and patriotic inhabitants of Kingston, New Hampshire. The good sense, spirit, and animation of your letter gives us great pleasure, and if anything could make us forget our unhappy situation, it would be the unexampled kindness of our friends.

The circumstances of this Town are truly deplorable; our harbor filled with armed ships; all foreign trade suspended; a vast number of poor thrown out of employ, who swarm daily to the Committee for labor or support; our Town filled with troops; the Neck, the only avenue into the Town, fortified by cannon planted on the walls; a regiment, and two redoubts, about forty rods without the fortification; the soldiery insolent, all the cannon that is private property which they can come at seized; the cannon at the North Battery spiked up, our powder taken possession of,

and every hostile appearance. What the event of these things will be, is known only to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, in whom we desire at all times to put our trust. In full confidence that our cause is just, and that we have an unalienable right to all the privileges specified in our charter, we are determined to make no concessions.

We have just to observe that we employ our poor, in mending the streets, making bricks, spinning wool, flax, cotton, &c. &c., and are erecting looms to weave the same into baizes and shirt cloth, which we hope to sell, and so protract our stock. The Committee have an arduous task, and they can assure the public that no one person, but such as are in indigent circumstances, ever received a penny benefit from the donations; and it is requested that no ill-natured report may be credited, until facts can be ascertained.

Please to present to our friends in Kingston, that have so liberally contributed to our relief, the most sincere and hearty thanks of this Committee, in behalf of the Town. We wish the best of Heaven's blessings may attend you, and that this kindness may be rewarded into your bosoms a thousand fold.

And be assured that we are, with great respect and esteem, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order the Committee of Donations.

P. S.—Some few of the sheep were left on the road; for particulars refer you to the bearer.

[N. B.—Ninety sheep were received.]

To Jacob Hooke and others, in the Town of Kingston, New Hampshire.



LETTER FROM WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND.

Worcester County, Maryland, Sept. 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Among a number of resolutions entered into by the General Committee of the Province of Maryland, respecting the distressed situation of your Town, one of which was that a subscription should be opened in the several

Counties of said Province, by their respective Committees, to raise a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing provisions for the relief of your distressed poor, in consequence of which we, as the Committee of Wor[ce]ster County, have shipped to your address, per the schooner Polly, Capt. Jones, one thousand bushels Indian corn, and hope it will come safe to hand.

Your conduct, so plainly manifesting the zeal and firm attachment you have to the general cause you are defending, gives us no room to distrust your candor and fidelity in making a just and impartial distribution of the little benefaction we have made to your most needy and necessitous. We hope to have the pleasure of receiving some accounts of your situation by the return of Capt. Jones, as no piece of intelligence would be more generally grateful at this time than Boston news.

That Heaven may grant you perseverance, and endue you with a prudent and becoming fortitude, upon this unhappy, alarming, and very interesting contest between Britain and her Colonies, is the ardent hope and desire of, Gentlemen, your sympathizing friends and fellow subjects,

PETER CHAILLE, } Committee
JOHN DONE, } of Worcester
WM. MORRIS, } County.

To the Gentlemen Committee of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO WORCESTER CO., MD.

Boston, October 10th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

This day the Committee of Donations, sometime since chosen and appointed by this Town, received your acceptable favor, dated Worcester County, Maryland, Sept. 15, ult., per Capt. Joseph Jones, which informs us of one thousand bushels corn sent per him. He had just come from Marblehead, and is now gone back with directions to take out the corn, and put it on board some coaster, or other vessel, that may be coming to this place. The captain

has told us that his vessel proves leaky. We have paid him three pounds twelve shillings sterling, the charge of pilotage over the shoals, and three pounds three shillings sterling more, custom house fees, and his own expenses. This letter we propose to forward to Marblehead, there to be committed to his care. We trust you are not mistaken in your opinion of our zeal for, and firm attachment to, the general cause, the cause of true constitutional freedom and liberty. We are sure we are not mistaken when we say, that our friends and fellow-countrymen in Maryland, have given the strongest evidence of their sympathy and tender compassion towards their suffering brethren in Boston. We acknowledge, with gratitude, to our friends in Maryland, particularly in Worcester County, our obligations to them for their generous and seasonable supplies. By means thereof we have been enabled, under God, hitherto to hold out in our opposition to the iniquitous measures of an administration, which, in the opinion of multitudes on the other as well as this side the Atlantic, has brought such disgrace on the English nation, as will scarcely be wiped away. We yet trust in the same gracious God, that he will plead and maintain our cause, and in his own time, make us glad according to the days wherein he hath afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. Together with their alms, may the daily prayers of our Christian friends in Maryland go up, for a memorial before God. The prayers of faith shall prevail.

Our friends in general have restricted us, respecting the distribution of their charities, viz., to the sufferers by means of the Boston Port Bill, and by this rule we endeavor to govern ourselves. You, it seems, have left us to act more at large ; however, we think we may venture to assure you, that such distributions will be made, as will coincide with the design of the benevolent donors. An account of the general conduct of the Committee has lately been communicated to the public, in the Boston prints, and we hope it has given satisfaction to all the friends of the common cause.

October 11. As to our situation and circumstances, they are indeed difficult and truly alarming. A fifty-gun ship, commanded by Admiral Graves, (called the Preston,) lying

in our harbor and nearly off the end of the Long Wharf, which leads directly up King Street, and to the Town or State House. Another man-of-war lying in Charles river, and very troublesome to the passengers, who are every minute in the day passing and repassing that ferry in boats, the best accommodated and perhaps the most frequented of any in all North America. Several other men-of-war stationed at different places, so that no vessel can come in, or any go out, but by their permission. A schooner man-of-war riding at anchor in Dorchester Bay, (so called,) and not far from Boston Neck, the only avenue into the Town by land—ten or twelve pieces of cannon mounted on the Fortification, (so called,) or walls, at the very entrance into the Town—two eighteen or twenty-four pounders planted just without the said fortifications, unless they have been lately removed; together with eight or ten more, to two entrenchments, or rather regular fortifications of earth, thrown up on each side said avenue, eighty or one hundred rods to the southward of the very entrance into the Town before mentioned; and a regiment has for some time been encamped on both sides of Boston Neck, and a little northerly of the two entrenchments; besides all this, a regiment of Welch fuzileers, (so called,) encamped on Fort Hill, not far distant southerly from the Long Wharf; also four regiments encamped on the Common, near the centre of the Town, together with a train of artillery planted there.

Insults and abuses, hardly to be borne, frequently offered by the soldiery to persons coming in and going out of Town—more troops sent for from Philadelphia and New York, or the Jerseys; also two regiments from Quebec;—what the issue will be we do not know, but it is our interest as well as duty, in this day of general calamity and distress, to commit our cause unto that God who judges righteously. In short, in our own apprehension, we carry our lives in our hands, every day. But we are strengthened, we are directed, we are supported from day to day. We are not intimidated; our enemy doth not yet triumph over us. By the help and blessing of God, we shall not only persevere, but shall be crowned with success in our endeavors to preserve the rights and liberties of *North America*; for although Boston has first been struck at, and

is now suffering the effects of ministerial vengeance, yet doubtless, more is intended than has yet been acted, and the plan of operation is designed to extend to the entire subversion and destruction of every thing accounted valuable and dear in the eyes of all the friends of freedom on this widely extended continent. Their countenance and help we greatly need, and these must encourage us, under the severity of our trials, and the sharpness of our conflict. We hope we have not trespassed upon your patience, as the length of this letter is grounded, (at least in part,) on the request contained in yours, which gratitude and common interest would forbid us to disregard.

We wish you prosperity, and are, Gentlemen, your much obliged and affectionate friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

*Messrs. Peter Chaille, John Done, and William Morris,
Committee of Correspondence of Worcester County, Maryland.*

Boston, October 10th, 1774.

MR. ELBRIDGE GERRY,

SIR,—Capt. Joseph Jones, of Worcester County, Maryland, has this moment informed of his arrival at Marblehead, with one thousand bushels of corn. He likewise says his vessel leaks very much. This is to beg the favor of you to engage a vessel to freight the corn to Boston.

Your humble servants,

By order of the Committee of Donations,

ALEX'R HODGDON, *Clerk.*

(At Marblehead.)

P. S.—Since the above, it has been suggested that Mr. Gerry and others, may be gone to the Congress. This is to beg the favor of some of the gentlemen, Committee of Correspondence, to give Capt. Jones such assistance as he may want, to get his corn taken out of the vessel, as she proves leaky, and get some coaster to take it on board.

Perhaps some vessel may want to come to Town, and would take it with little or no charge; but this we refer to your prudence, and any charges you may incur shall be reimbursed on sight. Capt. Jones has been paid pilotage, custom house charges, &c. Your care in this will add to the many favors received from our friends of Marblehead.



LETTER FROM ESSEX COUNTY, VA.

Virginia, Essex County, Sept. 19th, 1774.

*John Hancock, Esq., or the
Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston.*

GENTLEMEN,

This serves to inform you that we have consigned to you, by the schooner Sally, James Perkins, master, one thousand and eighty-seven bushels of Indian corn, for the use of our suffering brethren in your Town, it being a part only of the contribution by the people in this County, for their relief. The remainder, amounting to four or five hundred bushels, shall come by the first opportunity. We can venture to assure you that the Virginians are warmly disposed to assist them, and hope for their steady and prudent perseverance in the common cause of our country, from whence only we can hope for a happy termination of our distresses. We pray God for an happy issue to our virtuous struggles, and we beg leave to assure you, that we have the most sincere regard for our Northward brethren, and are,

Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

JOHN UPSHAW.
ARCHIBALD RITCHIE.
JNO. LEE.
ROBERT BEVERLY.

P. S.—You will be pleased to communicate, by the return of the vessel, the situation of public affairs in your Province.

REPLY TO ESSEX COUNTY, VA.

Boston, 14 March, 1775.

*To Jno. Upshaw, Archibald Ritchie,
Jno. Lee, and Robert Beverly, Esqrs.*

GENTLEMEN,

I am to acquaint you, that immediately after the arrival of the unrighteous and cruel edict for shutting up our harbor, the inhabitants of this Town appointed a Committee to receive and distribute such donations as our friends were making, for the employment and relief of those who would become sufferers thereby.

Your letter of the 19th of September last, directed to Jno. Hancock, Esq., or the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston, was laid before the same Committee, inclosing a bill of lading for one thousand and eighty-seven bushels of corn, being part of a very valuable contribution, shipped on board the schooner Sally, James Perkins, master, for the sufferers, from our respectable friends in Essex County, in Virginia. The schooner was by contrary winds driven to the island of St. Eustatia. Mr. Isaac Van Dam, a reputable merchant of that place, generously took the care of the corn, and, having made sale of it, remitted the amount of the proceeds, (free of all expense,) being one hundred seventy-one pounds 8/, New York currency, in a bill of exchange, drawn on Mr. Isaac Moses, of that city, which we doubt not will be duly honored.

The Committee very gratefully acknowledge their obligations to you, Gentlemen, for your trouble in transmitting this charitable donation, and they request that you would return their sincere thanks to the benevolent people of your County, for their great liberality towards the oppressed inhabitants of this devoted Town.

This is one among many testimonies afforded to us, that the Virginians are warmly disposed to assist their injured brethren and fellow-subjects in this place. This consideration has hitherto encouraged our inhabitants to bear indignities with patience, and having the continual approbation of all the Colonies, with that of their own minds, as being sufferers in the common cause of their country, I

am fully persuaded of their resolution, by God's assistance, to persevere in the virtuous struggle, disdaining to purchase an exemption from suffering by a tame surrender of any part of the righteous claim of America. May Heaven give wisdom and fortitude to each of the Colonies, and succeed their [un]remitted efforts, in the establishment of public liberty on an immoveable foundation.

I am, in behalf of our Committee, Gentlemen, your affectionate friend and countryman,

S. ADAMS.



LETTER FROM PERQUIMANS COUNTY, N. C.

Perquimans Co., 20th Sept., 1774.

HON'BLE GENTLEMEN,

Joseph Hewes, Esq., appointed a Trustee with me, to collect the donations of the inhabitants of two or three Counties in the neighborhood of Edenton, for the relief of our distressed brethren of Boston, being absent attending the Constitutional Congress at Philadelphia, I have the pleasure to send you, as per inclosed bill of lading, of the sloop Penelope, Edward Herbert, master, which wish safe to hand, and that you will cause the amount of the same to be divided among the poor inhabitants according to their necessities.

The captain has received the most of his freight here. The balance will be paid him on return, the cargo to be delivered clear of any expense; which you would have received some months sooner, but the difficulty of getting a vessel on freight, prevented. Hope to be able to send another cargo this winter, for the same charitable purpose, as the American inhabitants of this Colony entertain a just sense of the sufferings of our brethren in Boston, and have yet hopes that when the united determinations of the continent reaches the royal ear, they will have redress from the cruel, unjust, illegal and oppressive late Acts of the British Parliament. I take the liberty to inclose you the resolves of our provincial meeting of Deputies, and have the honor

to be, with the most perfect respect and esteem, in behalf of Mr. Hewes and self,

Honorable Gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HARVEY.

To the Honorable James Bowdoin, John Hancock, Samuel Adams, and Isaac Smith, Esqrs., and to the Honorable Committee of Correspondence in Boston.

REPLY TO PERQUIMANS COUNTY.

Boston, Oct. 17th, 1774.

SIR,

The 15th instant, Capt. Edward Herbert delivered to the Committee of Donations your very acceptable favor, dated Perquimans County, 20th Sept. ult., directed to the honorable Mr. Bowdoin and others, inclosing a bill lading for two thousand ninety-six and a half bushels of corn, twenty-two barrels flour, and seventeen barrels of pork, a noble and generous donation from our worthy brethren and fellow-countrymen of two or three Counties in the neighborhood of Edenton. We shall endeavor, in the distribution of their charities, to answer the intention of the benevolent donors. On this occasion it may not be improper to communicate to you the method, in general, which the Committee have gone into, respecting those charitable donations which have come into their hands. We therefore refer you to the printed account thereof, which we take the freedom to enclose, and we hope will be satisfactory to all our friends, of whose bounties we partake.

The losses, sufferings, and distresses of this Province, and of this once flourishing and happy Town, are really great; not possible to be expressed, not easy to be conceived. We think that every day we carry our lives in our hands; and this apprehension and view of the case, is of itself sufficient to fill the mind with such disquietude and distress, as those, who are not immediately concerned, cannot well conceive of. Our harbor is blocked up by men-of-war, stationed in different parts, and the only avenue

into the Town, by land, secured by regular fortifications of earth, erected on both sides said avenue, and containing five or six pieces of cannon each, with wide and deep ditches round the whole, except (at present) where said fortification fronts upon said avenue, or main road. These fastnesses are erected about eighty or ninety rods southerly of the fortifications, (as the Town generally terms it,) or walls, at the very entrance into the body of the Town, which entrance is about thirty or forty feet wide. Said walls extend about seventy or eighty feet easterly and westerly, from the sides of said entrance, and on them are planted ten or twelve pieces of cannon more. To these walls, the sea flows, as also to said avenue,—that is, just without the walls, and for the distance of ten or twelve rods on the eastern, and sixty or seventy rods on the western side. Between these walls, and those fortifications of earth, a regiment is encamped on both sides said avenue, and there the soldiers are building barracks for themselves. Four regiments yet remain encamped on the Common, where also they have ten or twelve pieces of cannon, with soldiers belonging to the train. The regiment of Welch fuzileers, remains encamped on Fort Hill, which is near the water, and not far southerly of what we call the Long Wharf. Transports have some time ago sailed for New York, to bring soldiers from thence, Philadelphia and the Jerseys. Also transports sailed sometime since to bring two regiments from Quebec. Three companies of soldiers lately arrived from Newfoundland, and it is said, six more regiments may be expected from England, and sundry men-of-war.

If Great Britain is determined to effect the subjugation of North America, *at all events*, the scene must be dreadful. But, be their determination what it may, America[ns], we trust, are determined, in the strength of God, not to surrender their rights and liberties, but with their lives. But we hope, when the determination of the Colonies is *believed* on the other side the water, and the guilt of the injustice, oppression and cruelty of their measures stares them in the face, they will deliberate *twice*, before they proceed to act *once* more. We think they have been greatly deceived; we are sure we have been grossly misrepre-

sented ; and, when they are undeceived, it may be hoped an alteration of measures may take place, which may God in great mercy order, and prevent the effusion of precious blood.

We thank you for the resolves of your provincial meeting of Deputies, which you were so kind as to inclose. We esteem them as manly, spirited and noble, worthy our patriotic brethren of North Carolina. The tender concern for, and honor done, this greatly injured and oppressed Town and Province, expressed therein, demand our particular notice and grateful acknowledgments, which are hereby tendered by this Committee in behalf of the Town. In short, your bounty, of which we now partake so largely, and the encouragement given of the increase thereof, lay us under the greatest obligation, and make [us] almost forget our misery. God grant that our endeavors to restore and preserve the rights of our dear America, may be attended with his favor and blessing ; then we may hope that we shall have occasion, both *he that soweth* and *he that reapeth*, to rejoice together in the salvation of our God and Saviour. To him be all the glory.

You will please to present our sincere and affectionate regards to the worthy gentleman, who is joined with you in the matter of these charitable and seasonable donations, and accept the same from,

Sir, your much obliged and very humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To the Honorable John Harvey, Esq., North Carolina.

Boston, Sept. 22d, 1774.

MR. ELBRIDGE GERRY,

Sir,—I am desired by the Committee of Donations, to request the favor of you, or some of our friends, to buy for us a load or two of wood, to pay as great a part as you can out of the corn that was left with you by the North Carolina vessel, about three weeks past. We understand that corn sells at three shillings and four pence at Salem. Please to excuse thus frequently troubling you, and be

assured the Committee are sensible of their great obligations to you, and their friends at Marblehead.

Your friend and humble servant,

NATHANIEL APPLETON, *per order.*



LETTER FROM HARTFORD.

Hartford, 21st September, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

I ship to your direction, by Capt. Peter Boyd, seven hundred and thirty-eight bushels of rye, and one hundred and eleven bushels of corn, the small but free gratuity of the inhabitants of this Town, (which I wish safe to hand,) for the use and benefit of the distressed inhabitants of the Towns of Boston and Charlestown, for whose savage treatment we feel the greatest emotions of resentment, whilst we despise the tools of your oppression, and hope and pray those blind leaders of the blind will soon fall into the pit they are digging for others, and have faith to believe, at a future period shall have to congratulate you on the happy event of this mighty struggle. At our last town meeting, it was proposed to send half the grain to Charlestown, supposing their distresses similar to yours, and the Town, by a vote, left it to the discretion of their Committee, who unanimously agreed that it seems to be reasonable it should go half to Charlestown; but at the same time submit the matter to your discretion and disposal, and if you think proper, Capt. Boyd will deliver to such persons as you shall direct. Shall thank you for advice by Capt. Boyd, (if convenient,) to know what is received and how disposed of.

Whilst, I remain, your fast friend and humble servant,

CALEB BULL, { In behalf of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Hartford.

N. B.—Great part of the Committee are Commissioners in the Militia, and are zealous in promoting that noble (and at this time necessary) exercise, and are all out this day for that purpose, which is one reason I am desired to forward

these by myself. In this small Town is a fine troop of horse, a glorious company of cadets, two companies of artillery, six companies of militia.

P. S.—Since I wrote these, am informed that a proportion of all the donations are to be applied for the relief of Charlestown; if so, what I have said on that head is needless, and will have no operation, and I hope need no further apology.

To Mr. David Jeffries.

REPLY TO HARTFORD.

Boston, October 14th, 1774.

WORTHY SIR,

By Mr. John Brown, one of the Committee of Donations, who last Thursday returned from a journey to Salem, I am favored with your letter, dated Hartford, 21st September, 1774, informing me that “you had shipped to my direction, seven hundred and thirty-eight bushels of rye, and one hundred and eleven bushels of corn, *the small but free gratuity* of the inhabitants of that Town, for the use and benefit of the distressed inhabitants of the Towns of Boston and Charlestown.” I particularly note what you write respecting our worthy brethren of Charlestown, with whom the inhabitants of this Town are entirely united in sentiment, love and affection. They doubtless feel, in a measure, what we feel; they feel for us and feel for themselves, and stand ready to afford us all the advice and assistance in their power; but their poor and necessitous, I apprehend, are few, when compared with ours. They have no troops stationed in their Town, nor consequently are they exposed to the daily insults and abuses of the soldiery, as is the case with us; nor do they every day carry their lives as it were in their hands, as we apprehend we do. This notwithstanding, agreeable to the information you had received, they receive a proportion of all the donations transmitted to the care of this Committee. We, on the other hand, receive a proportion of all donations sent to the care of their Committee.

It seems proper here to inform you, that about eight or

ten weeks ago, their Committee applied to this Committee, on the matter of donations. Upon the whole, it was proposed, and finally was mutually agreed, that it would be equal and just for our brethren of Charlestown, all things considered, to share and receive seven per cent on all donations. About that time there was a legal meeting of this Town, to whom the proposal was recommended, and a vote was accordingly passed, agreeable to said proposal.

What a spirit of union—what a spirit of love and affection has diffused itself through this continent! What a spirit of Christian sympathy, tender compassion, and liberality towards this once happy and flourishing, but now greatly injured and oppressed Town, has our gracious God excited in our dear friends and fellow-countrymen! It almost causes us to forget our afflictions and distresses. However, it greatly alleviates our troubles, refreshes our spirits, and supports us under our great distresses, which truly are such as require no small degree of prudence, moderation, firmness and resolution, faith and patience. If in any of these instances, this insulted and abused people have been enabled so to conduct hitherto, as that the gospel of God our Saviour has been honored, and the expectations and wishes of our fellow-countrymen answered, may God have all the glory.

Our grateful acknowledgments are first due to God, and then to our generous countrymen for their munificence, particularly to the patriotic inhabitants of Hartford. They are hereby presented by the Committee of Donations, in behalf of this Town, who unite in the prayers which were yesterday (our public lecture day, being on account of our peculiar distressing circumstances, appointed by the ministers of the Town, to be observed as a day of prayer) offered to God, in behalf of our sympathizing and liberal benefactors, that he would reward them a thousand fold into their own bosoms.

Our union will, under God, be our strength, our beauty, our safety. We are not yet intimidated; by his blessing we shall persevere, and in due time reap the happy fruits of our care and pain, our toils and labors. If we may be the instruments under Providence, in any degree, of preserving and securing the rights and liberties of North

America, we shall esteem ourselves highly honored and abundantly compensated. May repentance, love, and gospel obedience be promoted by these trials, and by the salvation which God may grant unto us. If you will please to look into the Boston prints of 26 and 29 September, you will there see an account of the manner in which the Committee conduct and distribute the kind charities of our friends. This I judge will supersede the necessity of entering into particulars on this head.

I find that a military spirit seems almost universally to prevail. The times call for the exertions of such a spirit. The art of war is noble, manly, I could wish I were not obliged to say necessary. I am sure it will be grateful to every true hearted American, that Hartford is so well prepared to "speak with the enemy in the gate." I wish the gentlemen of the military order the divine presence and blessing at all times.

With particular respects to your brethren of the Committee of Correspondence, I remain, Sir, your much obedient and affectionate friend and servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

*Caleb Bull, Esq., and others,
Committee of Correspondence in Hartford.*

P. S.—I have referred you to the newspapers of 26 and 29 September. The inclosed is a copy of what this Committee then communicated to the public, which will prevent the trouble in looking over the newspapers.



LETTER FROM CHELMSFORD.

Chelmsford, 26th September, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We, the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Chelmsford, take this opportunity of transmitting a quantity of grain, collected for the use of your poor. We are happy to have it in our power, by any means, to show our affection for a Town, who are so eminently suffering in the

common cause. As we entertain the highest esteem of your *conduct*, we are willing not only to *sympathize*, but *share* with you in your troubles.

And should you, by the hand of power, be driven from your habitations, we welcome you to our own; and trust, that in these, at present, abodes of peace and liberty, you enjoy a superior satisfaction to those who are aiming "to raise their greatness on their country's ruin."

We are, Gentlemen, with much esteem,
Your humble servants,

JONA. WILLIAMS AUSTIN, } Chairman, by order
 } of the Committee.

[Received 40 bushels rye, and stored it in the Granary.]

REPLY TO CHELMSFORD.

Boston, Oct. 3d, 1774.

SIR,

To commiserate the afflicted, to sympathize with the oppressed sufferer, to reach out the bounteous hand for the comfort, relief and support of the distressed, are sacrifices well pleasing and acceptable to God through Christ our Saviour.

Our worthy friends and brethren of Chelmsford have in this way done honor to the gospel of our divine Redeemer, and by so doing have greatly honored themselves. We have an evidence hereof in the very kind donation of forty bushels of rye, from the patriotic inhabitants of that Town; it has been received and housed in the Granary, and shall be disposed of agreeable to the benevolent intent of the generous donors.

It affords us great satisfaction to find that the conduct of this much abused Town meets with their approbation. We greatly value it, and trust that, by the same gracious directing and supporting Hand which has brought us hitherto, we shall not be left to do any thing [which] may incur a forfeiture of your affection and esteem. How can ye help us at such a time as this, more effectually, than by carrying our cause daily to the God of all grace, and im-

ploring his mercy and favor for us. They are inclusive of all good.

Your invitation to make your houses our homes, is very engaging, should we at length be forced out of these once peaceful habitations; we think ourselves very happy that we are like to be well provided for; but should we be obliged even to remove off fifteen times the distance of Chelmsford, yet the consciousness of a cordial attachment to the invaluable civil and religious liberties of our country, which we believe to be the cause of truth and righteousness, would yield us abundant satisfaction, far superior to *that* which those can experience who are ungratefully seeking to “build their greatness on their country’s ruin.”

With grateful acknowledgments, I am, Sir,
Your truly obliged friend and servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Jona. Williams Austin, at Chelmsford.



LETTER FROM BERWICK.

Berwick, Sept. 27th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

This Town has taken the distressed circumstances of yours into consideration, and have raised a small sum for the relief of the industrious poor of your Town, in oxen and sheep, (the number of which see N. B.,) and have sent you by the bearers hereof, viz., Messrs. Gilbert Warren and James Brackett, who are so generous as to take it upon them. We are poor here, cash and provisions scarce with us, but the spirit of liberty runs so high among us, that it appears evident to me that we shall exert ourselves to the utmost of our power, even to hazard life itself, before we shall be willing to give up the noble cause we are contending. We esteem what we have now sent you but as a token of respect for your suffering in the cause of your country, and doubt not as the call is, so will be our liberality towards our suffering brethren. Please to write me

by the bearer, of your receiving the token of respect of this Town.

In behalf of the Committee, I am, Gentlemen, your sincere friend and humble servant,

WM. ROGERS.

[N. B. 6 oxen, 26 sheep.]

P. S.—Something more subscribed, not yet collected—hope shortly to collect it, and send it in specie.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO BERWICK.

Boston, 3d October, 1774.

SIR,

Your favor of 27th September last, directed to the Overseers of the Town of Boston, came to the hands of the Committee of Donations the 1st instant. The contents are very affecting, and discover a truly benevolent spirit. In behalf of this Town please to accept of our grateful acknowledgment to our worthy and patriotic friends and countrymen, the inhabitants of Berwick. We are particularly obliged to Messrs. Gilbert Warren and James Brackett, for their care and trouble in handing to us twenty-six sheep and six oxen, the very generous donation from your Town, which shall be applied to the purpose for which it was intended.

Such expressions of sympathy and kindness, not in word and tongue only, but in deed and in truth, serve to convince us that Berwick, as well as Boston, are engaged in the same glorious cause; the cause, as we believe, of truth and righteousness, and which we hope our gracious God, the God of New England, will enable us earnestly to contend for, and will himself maintain and defend, and in his own time and way grant abundant reason to give thanks unto his holy name, and to triumph in his praise.

It seems the same spirit of true constitutional liberty animates this widely extended continent, perhaps Canada not excepted. The inhabitants there have lately sent us one thousand bushels of wheat, and we are informed they design to send more.

Your intentions to afford us further relief, demand particular notice and sincere thanks. Our embarrassments and distresses are not small, but hitherto God hath helped us. By his help and blessing we are determined to persevere, and by the same we may be assured that our conflict, though ever so sharp, shall be crowned with success. To him let us continually direct our prayers of faith, and in this way wait and hope for His salvation.

We are, Sir, your affectionate, obliged friends and countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Mr. William Rogers, Berwick.



LETTER FROM LEBANON.

Lebanon, Oct. 3d, 1774.

WORTHY AND DEAR GENTLEMEN,

As I am sensible your time is very precious and important, will only trouble you with advice that you will, by Capt. Hyde, receive the small remainder of our small collection, for the relief of your poor, yet virtuous and oppressed people, groaning under hateful and accursed tyranny. We greatly applaud your firmness and resolution. On that, and the concurring zeal, virtue and patriotism of the united continent depends alone, under God, your and our salvation. Deliverance will arise, and that shortly. The principles we maintain are founded in eternal truth and justice, and they must and will prevail. We can scarcely endure your suffering the tyrant Gage, with his insignificant phalanx, to make themselves strong at the entrance of your city, and think the vengeance too tardy. Yet I believe wisdom will justify your patience, and moderation increase your fortitude.

I am, with great respect, your devoted and affectionate friend and servant,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

It is impossible that any but the enemies of God and their country should censure your conduct in managing

the charities, &c. Is it possible the wretch, by fortifying, should think to render it more facile to seize some of your illustrious patriots? I trust he dare not.

*To Doct. Joseph Warren,
and the rest of the Committee of Donations, Boston.*

REPLY TO LEBANON.

Boston, Oct. 11th, 1774.

SIR,

Your very agreeable favor of 3d instant, accompanying another kind donation of eight cattle, from our worthy brethren of Lebanon, we are now to acknowledge the receipt of. It gives us the highest pleasure to find, not only our brethren in Connecticut, but through the Colonies, strengthening our hands and encouraging our hearts. We in this Town are doing every thing in our power, to ward off the blow aimed at North America, and are for the good of the whole, patiently bearing a very heavy burden. But when we find, by your letters and generous donations, you feel for us, and are stretching every nerve to support and vindicate our rights, so cruelly wrested from us, it gives us a determined spirit to persevere and endure burdens which otherwise would be intolerable. We think with you, that "deliverance will shortly come." May our faith and patience hold out; they may, and we expect will be tried, but let us endure. We trust God will not give up this country, which he has done such great things for, which at this day seems the only asylum of civil and religious liberty for mankind.

Notwithstanding the formidable appearance at our *gates*, with cannon mounted against the country, we are not intimidated. You, and the rest of our brethren in the country, give us courage. May we all have wisdom and patience, moderation and fortitude, and commit our cause to Him who judgeth righteously, and then we need not fear.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

BENJA. AUSTIN, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

Mr. Wm. Williams, at Lebanon, in Connecticut.

Boston, October 13th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Donations beg the favor that you will deliver the inclosed letter to Capt. Joseph Jones, on board the schooner Polly, bound to Maryland, from your place. It is in answer to a letter he brought with a donation of one thousand bushels corn, from Worcester County, Maryland.

I am, Gentlemen, your humble servant, by order of the Committee of Donations,

ALEX'R HODGDON, *Clerk.**To the Committee of Correspondence at Marblehead.*

LETTER FROM FARMINGTON.

Farmington, Oct. 4th, 1774.

SIR,

I have shipped on board Capt. Loveman's¹ sloop, bound for Boston, one hundred and forty-nine bushels of grain, contributed by the inhabitants of the parish of Southington, in Farmington, for the relief of the industrious poor of the Town of Boston, who are suffering under the hand of power, viz., twenty-two and a half bushels of wheat, one hundred and eighteen bushels of rye, nine and a half bushels corn, which I have ordered Capt. Loveman to deliver to yourself, excepting so much, which he is to take out at the market price, to pay the freight of said grain, which freight is to be 4½*d.* the bushel. Your compliance herewith will much oblige

Your friend and humble servant,

JONATHAN ROOT, { In the name and behalf
of the Committee.*To David Jeffries, Esq., Treasurer of Boston, and the Committee.*

REPLY TO FARMINGTON.

Boston, November 15th, 1774.

SIR,

I received your very acceptable favor per Capt. Loveland,¹ dated Farmington, October 4, 1774, which I commu-

¹ This name is printed as it appears in the MS.



Reply to Farmington.

nicated to the Committee of Donations. Benevolence and bounty demand suitable returns of gratitude. This Committee, therefore, in behalf of this much abused and distressed Town, present their thankful acknowledgments to our worthy brethren, the patriotic inhabitants of Southington, in Farmington, for their generous donation of grain, which Capt. Loveland has delivered in good order, and shall be applied, agreeable to the intent of our charitable benefactors, viz., "for the relief of the industrious poor of the Town of Boston, who are suffering under the hand of power." For the satisfaction of such of our friends and fellow-countrymen, particularly, who not only sympathize with us, but afford their seasonable relief, under our great oppressions, I now inclose a printed account of the proceedings of the Committee respecting the donations with which we are intrusted, and I hope it will meet with your and their approbation.

The Town is now filled with soldiers, who are gone into barracks, dispersed in every part. Some suppose their number to be four, others five thousand. Be that as it may, we are not intimidated, and by the continuance of the divine blessing and favor, we shall remain undaunted, and rise superior, not only to all the power, but also to all the policy of our enemies; and, while "they are brought down and fallen, we shall rise and stand upright," rejoicing in the salvation of our God.

This day I saw a letter, dated London, Sept. 3d, 1774, from a person of distinction to a gentleman here. He writes to this purpose, that "he might have been expected over into these parts, but his friends urged his stay in London, until the result of the Congress should be known,—that the spirit, temper and firmness of this people, and their union respecting their rights, greatly surprised and disappointed our enemies,—that the current of conversation, which heretofore had been much against us, was turned in our favor, and he (the writer) doubted not that by the time the Parliament met, it would be as general in our favor, as it had been against us; and that there would be a great number of our friends in Parliament the next session,—that the non-consumption agreement, if faithfully adhered to, must be the ruin of the Ministry; and our

U. of M.

friends would succeed ; when we might hope for such a constitution from the King, Lords and Commons, as would be agreeable to us, and for the benefit of the whole empire." This intelligence may be depended on.

I hope we shall be able, shortly, to communicate further agreeable accounts. In the mean time remain, with much affection and esteem,

Sir, your very humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order and in behalf of the
Committee of Donations.

To Mr. Jonathan Root, Southington.



LETTER FROM COVENTRY.

Coventry, Connecticut, Oct. 11th, [4th,] 1774.

To the Committee of the Towns of Boston and Charlestown, appointed to receive and distribute the charitable donations for the benefit of the poor, suffering in consequence of the late cruel and oppressive Act commonly called the Port Bill.

GENTLEMEN,

After proper compliments, [we] beg leave to express our deep concern from a consideration of the threatening aspect of American liberty in general, and the most cruel and arbitrary hand of vengeance stretched over your Province and your respective Towns in particular, (by the aforesaid cruel Act,) which hath exhibited universal detestation on the oppressors and compassion on the oppressed ; which matters we have had under serious consideration in town meeting, and upon mature deliberation have passed some resolves, wherein we have fully expressed our sentiments with regard to American liberties generally, as you may see at your leisure ; and also appointed a Committee to take in subscriptions for the relief of your poor, who have made a small collection of about two hundred and twenty sheep, partly stores and partly market sheep ; and we have given orders to dispose of the stores on the road, (if opportunity presents,) and remit to you the net proceeds, which we send by the hands of our Committee, Capt. Samuel Robertson, Capt. Elias Buell, and Mr. Daniel Pomroy, hoping our inability will atone for the smallness of our gratuity.

M. R. U.

It is the direction of this Town, that the Town of Charlestown share with Boston, in proportion to their necessities, and desire you will direct accordingly, or in such proportion as in your wisdom shall judge just. We applaud the wisdom, prudence, and fortitude of your measures, and consider you as suffering in the common cause, and wish you firmness and patience in your sufferings and trials, (in which we sympathize,) hoping deliverance may soon arrive, and America be restored to our ancient franchises, and a happy, permanent union with the mother country established upon a just foundation, which is the hearty desire of your affectionate friends and humble servants,

EPHRAIM ROOT,	} <i>Committee</i>
EBEN'R KINGSBURY,	
ELIAS BUELL,	
JNO. CROCKER,	
WILLIAM WILLSON,	
	of
	<i>Correspondence.</i>

To the Gentlemen Committee,

Overseers of the Poor for the Towns of Boston and Charlestown.

REPLY TO COVENTRY.

Boston, Oct. 10th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

By our worthy friends, Capt. Samuel Robertson, Capt. Elias Buell, and Mr. Daniel Pomroy, we received your very obliging letter, dated Coventry, in Connecticut, October 4, 1774, informing us that you had sent two hundred and twenty sheep, for the benefit and relief of the poor in Boston and Charlestown, suffering in consequence of the late cruel and oppressive Act, commonly called the Boston Port Bill. We consider our brethren of Charlestown more immediately affected, and now suffering by means of the aforesaid cruel Act, and in consequence of an interview eight or ten weeks ago between the Committee of Correspondence of said Charlestown, and the Committee of Donations of this Town, it was proposed, and mutually agreed, that Charlestown should be entitled to seven per cent on all donations transmitted for the benevolent purposes aforementioned. This proposal was about that time communicated to this Town, at their legal meeting, and a vote passed

agreeable thereto. It affords us particular pleasure that the act of this Town is so conformable to the sentiments and direction of our generous friends in Coventry. You are pleased to make an *apology* for the smallness "of this gratuity." This we look upon as expressions of your Christian sympathy and strong affection towards us, and your earnest desire to relieve, comfort and support us under our grievous trials and sufferings. If we have been enabled, hitherto, so to conduct, as to meet with the approbation of our fellow-countrymen, we cannot but experience a satisfaction far superior to what those can feel, whose joys arise from the prospect they think they have, of *building their greatness on their country's ruin*. We stand in need of great degrees of wisdom, prudence, fortitude, firmness and patience, while struggling in the glorious cause of true constitutional freedom and liberty. The God of New England hath hitherto helped us ; to him, therefore, the whole glory is due, and to him we must render it. It greatly concerns us that we do not sacrifice to our own net, and burn incense to our own drag. By the influence and help of the same gracious, Almighty Being, we shall yet persevere, until desired peace and harmony between Great Britain and the Colonies, shall again take place, and never be interrupted more.

The cordial acknowledgments of this Committee, in behalf of the Town of Boston, are hereby presented, and we trust will be accepted by our brethren of Coventry.

We are, with great affection and esteem, Gentlemen, your obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, } Per order the Committee of Donations.

*To Mr. Ephraim Root and others,
Committee of Correspondence at Coventry.*



LETTER FROM WATERBURY.

Waterbury, Oct. 5th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

A few of the inhabitants of Waterbury, first society, in the Colony of Connecticut, sensible of the sufferings you

are under by the hand of oppression, in the cause of American liberty, have made a small collection toward your relief, viz. forty-eight and a half bushels of rye, three and a half bushels wheat, and three barrels rye flour, marked L., which is to be shipped to-morrow, and sent by Capt. Rice, the bearer hereof, to be disposed of at your discretion, for the use of the needy in that Port, now blocked up, by which means the inhabitants are very unjustly deprived of the ordinary means of life. Freight and customary dues to be deducted and paid said Rice. There are also other collections making in other parts of this Town; whether they can be forwarded to Boston before winter, is uncertain. We rejoice that so many through the several Colonies consider you as suffering in the common cause of liberty, and are spirited for your support in it. We are glad to hear of your steadfastness and perseverance, tempered with prudence and patience under insults and abuses. It has given us pleasure to see the animated resolutions of your County of Suffolk. May Heaven succeed your attempts to recover your just rights.

We are your affectionate and feeling friends,

JOSIAH HOPKINS,	} <i>In the name of others.</i>
EZRA BRONSON,	
ISAAC BRONSON, JUN.,	
TIMO. CLARK,	
EBENEZER BEARDSEY,	

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO WATERBURY.

Boston, Nov. 11th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your kind letter of the 5th ult. directed to the Overseers of this Town, this Committee have received, with the generous donation of our brethren, the inhabitants of Waterbury, first society, for which we sincerely thank you, and for the notice you give us that "other collections were making in other parts of the Town, but whether they can be forwarded before winter, you say, is uncertain." This we leave with you, not doubting you will do every thing in

your power to forward any donations that may be made for this distressed Town, as the necessities of many, this winter, will be great. It is great alleviation to us in the difficulties we are groaning under, that our brethren, not only in Waterbury, but throughout the Colony of Connecticut, are sympathizing with us, and are so generously supplying the necessities of many in this Town, who are deprived of getting a subsistence by the cruel Port Bill. We consider it as a common cause, and hope God will enable us to make such a stand in opposing these cruel and tyrannical acts of the British Parliament, levelled particularly against this Province, as that all America will reap the benefit thereof; and we are determined, by divine assistance, not to betray or give up the rights of America.

I am, in behalf of the Committee of Donations, Gentlemen, your much obliged humble servant,

BEN. AUSTIN, { Per order of
the Committee.

To Messrs. Joseph Hopkins, Ezra Bronson, Isaac Bronson, Jun., Timo. Clark, and Ebenezer Beardsey, Waterbury, in Connecticut.



LETTER OF COMMITTEE.

Boston, October 10th, 1774.

RICHARD DERBY, ESQ.,

Sir,—Inclosed is invoice of the rice. You will perceive that we have not got the weight of the casks from 1 to 20, but there is the total weight, therefore suppose it will be equal between the buyer and seller to sell, the number from 1 to 10, at 540 net, and from 11 to 20 at 520 lbs. net, each. As the season for conveying safely will soon be over, we shall be glad you would ship us the remainder of the rice, upon the easiest terms you can. It is very probable some vessels that want to come to this Town to winter, or repair, will be glad to take it on board to enable them to come into this port. We are much obliged to you for your care in these affairs, and when you

send up the rice, please to forward an account of the charges that have attended the same for payment.

We are, with great esteem,

By order of the Committee,

NATH'L APPLETON.

[At Salem.]



LETTER FROM NEW HARTFORD.

New Hartford, Oct. 10th, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

The bearer of this is Mr. Aaron Austin, of New Hartford, in the County of Litchfield, who is one of the Committee of Correspondence elected in this Town, who waits on you with our requests to be informed what kinds of supplies are most wanted for the poor in Boston and Charlestown, that our charity might be directed suitable to their necessities, and to manifest our most hearty regards to you, amidst the late distresses in Boston, arising from the very unjust and severe policy of the British administration. We heartily sympathize with you, gentlemen, in your late distresses, and you may depend on our continued and most vigorous exertions in your favor, in all those ways and methods suited to our condition, and which may generally be adopted, as is most proper and effectual, to remove your present unhappy circumstances, and to restore your safety and prosperity. And we most heartily congratulate you on the late discovery of your firmness, fortitude, and unanimity in defence of your valuable rights and privileges, lately exhibited by your very worthy and patriotic delegates for the County of Suffolk, and the hearty approbation of the General Congress, of your spirited and judicious resolves. Our dependence still is, that you will resolutely persevere in the defence of our common liberties and privileges, with all that wisdom and prudence suitable to so alarming an occasion, so as still to merit the approba-

tion of all the brave and free people in America, and even of millions yet unborn.

We remain, Gentlemen, your very humble servants, truly and zealously engaged in one common and important cause,

The Committee of Correspondence in New Hartford.

JOSEPH COWLS,	}	<i>Committee of Correspondence.</i>
SETH SMITH,		
EDW'D MERRELL,		

*To Joseph Warren, Esq.,
Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence in Boston.*

REPLY TO NEW HARTFORD.

Boston, Oct. 22d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your favor of 10th instant, per Mr. Aaron Austin, directed to Doctor Warren, was by him communicated to the Committee appointed by this Town, for receiving and distributing the generous donations of our sympathizing brethren. We observe your request to be informed what kind of supplies are most wanted for the poor in Boston and Charlestown, that your charity may be directed suitable to their necessities ; and for answer say, that any kind of provisions will be acceptable to us, and we cheerfully leave it to our benevolent friends in New Hartford, to send those which will be attended with the least trouble and inconvenience to themselves, or, if money could be sent with less difficulty than provisions, it will be equally agreeable and as gratefully received.

We sincerely thank you for the sympathy you express for us under our severe trials, and for the kind assurances of your ' continued and most vigorous exertions in our favor, in all those ways and methods suited to our condition, and which may be generally adopted as the most proper and effectual to remove our present unhappy circumstances, and restore our safety and prosperity.' It affords us great consolation under all our troubles, that our conduct meets with the approbation and applause of our

friends and brethren, and we can assure you that our firmness, fortitude, and unanimity in defence of our rights and privileges, remain unshaken, amidst all the dangers with which we are surrounded. We trust our cause is good, and in a humble dependence on the Almighty for all those supplies of wisdom and fortitude we stand in need of, we are determined vigorously to exert ourselves in its support and defence, hoping we shall ere long have the happiness of seeing fair liberty, that heavenly plant, again flourishing in the fertile fields of America. We consider ourselves accountable to our generous benefactors for the distribution of their charities, and have therefore enclosed you an account which we published some time ago, for the satisfaction of the public, and flatter ourselves it will meet with your approbation.

We are, Gentlemen, your affectionate, though greatly distressed friends and brethren,

HENRY HILL, { Per order the Com-
mittee of Donations.

*To Joseph Cowls, Seth Smith, and Edward Merrell,
Committee of Correspondence, New Hartford.*



LETTER FROM GROTON.

Groton, 11th October, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your agreeable favor of 13th August we received, and observe your leaving the time with us, with regard to sending the amount of the Groton subscription, which we now send by our friends, William Morgan, Esq., and Capt. Joseph Gallop, which subscription amounts to one hundred and twenty-eight sheep, and seven young fat cattle, all which we hope will arrive safe with you, and to satisfaction. In our letter to you of the 10th of August, we never made mention of the poor of Charlestown, but am sure they will not be forgotten by you, Gentlemen of the Committee. The Gentlemen of this Town seem to be disposed to subscribe as much more for the support of the poor with you,

if needed. We hope and believe you will all stand firm in the grand cause of liberty, and be assured of our prayers to the divine Being, that he will direct and bless you in this critical day.

We are, Gentlemen, your sincere friends and very humble servants,

WM. LEDYARD, } Per order of the rest
of the Committee.

*To Nath'l Appleton, Esq.,
and the rest of the Committee for Donations in Boston.*

REPLY TO GROTON.

Boston, 18th October, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 11th inst., accompanying the generous donation of our brethren of Groton, viz., one hundred and twenty-eight sheep, and seven fat cattle, and to thank you for the kind assurances you give us, if need be, of your further support. The sympathy and kindness of our brethren in Connecticut, refreshes and comforts our poor and necessitous, and encourages the hearts of the more affluent, in this greatly distressed Town, whose melancholy *situation*, and much more melancholy *prospect*, the coming winter, calls for pity and the prayers of all good men. The cause we are contending for, we think a righteous one, and when our liberties, civil and religious, with our lives and property, are all at stake, we may then venture to appeal to Him who judgeth righteously.

You and our friends in Groton may be assured, that we in this Town think nothing too dear to part with, that *America* may enjoy her constitutional rights; ever bearing in our minds, that we are making *this stand*, not for ourselves only, but for posterity. And while we are assured of "your prayers to the divine Being that he will direct and bless us in this critical day," we hope he will, in his own time and way, defend and save us.

We would acquaint you that this Committee, very early, met a Committee of our brethren of Charlestown, and

mutually agreed they should receive seven per cent of all donations, and accordingly they are receiving the same.

We are, with great esteem,

Sir, your most obliged friend and humble servant,

BENJ. AUSTIN, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To William Ledyard, Esq., Groton, Connecticut.



LETTER FROM MARBLEHEAD.

Marblehead, Oct. 12th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with your desire, we have procured a vessel to receive and carry to Boston the cargo of corn, mentioned in your favor. We were unable to conduct the matter so prudently as you hoped, as we could find no vessel bound to Boston, that could take it. However, we presume it will come now almost, if not altogether freight free, as the owner of the vessel who brings it is too beneficently disposed to permit his master to receive freight on such an occasion, and the master has generously determined to receive none, till he has the approbation of his owner, (who is now absent.) It affords us the highest satisfaction to hear of, and see the truly charitable donations pouring in from all the Colonies to your much distressed and worthy inhabitants, which we hope, under Providence, will animate them patiently to bear the iron hand of affliction which is upon them, rather than suffer themselves, with all America, to be subjugated to the yoke of ministerial tyranny and oppression. We are too deeply impressed with a sense of your present burdens, not truly to sympathize with you under them; but being assured of the righteousness of our cause, we humbly trust that He, who is higher than the highest, will hear our groans and grant us all a

speedy and permanent deliverance; which is the ardent wish of,

Gentlemen, your humble servant, by the desire of the Committee of Correspondence,

J. ORNE.

To the Committee of Donations at Boston.



LETTER FROM MONMOUTH COUNTY, N. J.

County of Monmouth, New Jersey, Oct. 12th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We send consigned to you, per Capt. Brown, twelve hundred bushels rye, and fifty barrels of rye meal, being the donation of the County of Monmouth, for the relief of your suffering poor. And we doubt not it will be faithfully applied to the purpose intended by the donors; and should a further supply be hereafter necessary to enable your devoted Town to stem the torrent of ministerial and parliamentary vengeance, we doubt not to be able to obtain from our constituents, a considerable addition to this. We rely, under God, upon the firmness and resolution of your people, and earnestly hope they will never think of receding from the glorious ground they stand upon, while the blood of freedom runs in their veins, and while a supply can be found from the other parts of America for their needy inhabitants. You will be kind enough to furnish Capt. Brown, (whom we recommend to you as a gentleman much to be relied upon in the transaction of any business,) with your receipt for his cargo; and, in addition to that, please to favor us with any information, either respecting your present situation or the general cause of American liberty, and it shall be thankfully acknowledged by us, who beg leave to subscribe ourselves, with real esteem, your most humble servants,

The Committee of the County of Monmouth, in the Colony of New Jersey.

By order,

EDWARD TAYLOR, *Chairman.*

Mr. William Cooper,

Town Clerk of the Committee of Correspondence of Boston.

REPLY TO MONMOUTH COUNTY.

Boston, 21st October, 1774.

SIR,

The kind and generous donation of the County of Monmouth, in the Jerseys, we are now to acknowledge, and with grateful hearts to thank you therefor, having received from the Committee of said County, per Captain Brown, eleven hundred and forty bushels rye, and fifty barrels rye meal, for the suffering poor of this Town, which shall be applied to the purpose intended by the donors. And what further cheers our hearts, is your kind assurances of a further supply, if necessary, to enable us to oppose the cruel Parliamentary Acts, levelled not only against this Town, but our whole constitution. We in this Town are indeed suffering greatly by the Port Bill, &c., but as it is the cause of America, we the more patiently bear the heavy burthen, nor shall we reckon anything too dear to sacrifice for the constitutional rights of our brethren throughout the Colonies, nor even think of receding from, or giving up, those rights. As we are not insensible of the noble exertions and generous donations of our brethren of the Jerseys, and throughout the Colonies, we patiently bear the burdens Providence has been pleased *first* to lay on us, not doubting but that all America will, with one heart, oppose every unconstitutional Act of Parliament, that shall any ways infringe upon our charters, and the rights which, as men, God and nature have given us.

You, our brethren, pity us, and we doubt not, pray for us, but you cannot be fully sensible of what we bear; our extensive trade being stopped and ruined, carries such a train of evils with it, that we cannot enumerate, and therefore will not pretend to describe them. Your own reflections will furnish you with some idea of our deplorable circumstances, better than we can picture it. We would only say, as to our present *situation*, that our Castle, the key of the Provinces, is in the hands of the troops; our harbor clogged with ships of war; our Town filled with six regiments, and more coming; the entrance of the Town fortified by a strong entrenchment, and cannon pointed against the whole country. But we are not discouraged. God

has done great things for us ; he is still helping, and we trust he will, in his own time and way, deliver us.

I am, with great respect and esteem, for the Committee of Donations in this Town,

Sir, your most obliged, humble servant,

BENJ. AUSTIN, *per order.*

To Mr. William [Edwd.] Taylor, Monmouth County, New Jersey.



LETTER TO MARBLEHEAD.

*Boston,*¹ *October 15th, 1774.*

SIR,

Capt. Edw'd Herbert has this morning delivered the Committee of Donations, a letter from John Harvey and Joseph Hewes, Esqrs., of North Carolina, inclosing a bill of lading for two thousand ninety-six and a half bushels of corn, twenty-two barrels flour, and seventeen barrels pork, a generous present from the patriotic inhabitants of Perquimans County.

We must again request your favor in giving such advice and assistance to Capt. Herbert, as he may need. The

¹ The following description of Boston is copied from the Boston Gazette, of Monday, October 17, 1774 :—" Upwards of five months have expired since this devoted Town has experienced all the horrors of the Port Bill ; and as if these were not sufficient to satiate the malice of our enemies, severities which that Act, vengeful as it is, did not know of, have been grafted upon it. Many instances might be mentioned ; suffice it to say, that a scow, with boards and old iron, has been seized in a mill-pond and libeled in an admiralty court ; a boat, owned by one Stewart, with sand for our floors, has been taken in the harbor, and the sand thrown into the sea, without the form of a trial ; as was a lighter-load of hay, coming up from Braintree. The produce of islands near the Town have not been suffered to be taken off ; and a float carrying sheep to feed on one of those islands, has been obliged to carry them back again : Bread, meal, and other provisions, were not suffered to pass a little ferry to Charlestown, and their ferry-boats have been taken and detained for daring to attempt a passage after nine o'clock at night : Our numerous poor are suffering by the rise of wood, butter, cheese, and other provisions, not permitted to be brought up as usual from the little rivers and bays in our harbor ; and when our tyrants have been expostulated with for these illegal proceedings, they have insultingly replied, that, agreeable to the Act of Parliament, it was to distress us ; and this their intention has been so effectually accomplished, that it may be affirmed, without exaggeration, the loss this town has sustained within only one month of our blockade,

Committee have voted that the whole of the cargo be sent round to Boston.

We are under great and renewed obligations to our brethren of Marblehead. We have it in our power, at present, only to acknowledge those obligations, and that we are, with great esteem,

Gentlemen, your friends and humble servants,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To J. Orne and others, Committee of Correspondence, Marblehead.



LETTER FROM OLD YORK.

GENTLEMEN,

In this you find an account of the donation of the inhabitants of the Town of York, to the oppressed poor of the Town of Boston, which we hope will be acceptable in kind, and doubt not will be applied to the most rational and salubrious uses, which, with the blessing of the great Author of nature, will tend to the restitution and continuance of our invaluable rights and liberties, inhumanly ravished from us. In the mean time we are, Gentlemen,

exceeds the whole amount of those generous donations received from our sympathizing friends through the continent. Added to all this, our Town is surrounded with ships of war; and it is said the fleet at Newfoundland are to winter in this harbor: Formidable fortifications are erected, and others erecting at the only avenue to the Town; chains and chevaux-de-frise already provided to stop up the entrance at pleasure; four regiments encamped upon the Common, with a large train of artillery and matrosses; one regiment on Fort-Hill, one on the new fortifications on the Neck, and another regiment at Castle-William; three companies just arrived in the Rose man-of-war, from Newfoundland; transports dispatched some time past to New York for two regiments from thence and the Jerseys, and to Quebec for two regiments from that quarter: Military stores and implements of all kinds are collecting in this town, which has now the appearance of a garrison. Reports are propagated here, and the English papers announce, that six more regiments are coming from Europe. What may be the intention of all this, and what ought to be the conduct of this and the other Provinces upon so alarming an occasion, we shall not pretend to say. This capital is a spectacle to them, and to the whole world; a striking example of what is to be expected from the uncontrollable power claimed by a British Parliament over these Colonies that have not a single representative in it. But under all these sufferings and terrors, Boston has not as yet renounced the great and common cause for which it suffers."—ED.

in behalf of the Town, your fellow-sufferers in the glorious cause of liberty, and hope to continue your sincere friends, and very humble servants, in every rational view,

JOHN SWETT, }
EDW'D GROW, } *Selectmen*
JOSEPH GRANT, } *of York.*

Old York, October 17th, 1774.

To the Committee Extraordinary for the oppressed poor in Boston.

P. S.—The above donation is sent in the Sloop Isabel, Capt. Daniel Moulton, master.

REPLY TO OLD YORK.

Boston, October 22d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

By Capt. Moulton, the Committee of Donations received your obliging letter of the 17th instant, also a generous and very acceptable present of wood, sheep and potatoes, sent by our worthy and patriotic brethren of Old York, to the oppressed poor of Boston. It will be the care and endeavor of the Committee to answer the intentions of the benevolent donors. The said Committee, not long ago, communicated to the public, in the newspapers, some account of their manner of conducting. It is possible, *that* account may not have fallen into your hands; we therefore inclose a half sheet printed copy thereof, and we hope it will meet with the approbation of our friends at Old York. We have been and are yet struggling hard to preserve our freedom. It is our duty to observe with thankfulness to God, that our enemy doth not yet triumph over us. By his countenance and favor we shall not only persevere in the common cause, but finally enjoy the invaluable blessings of liberty and peace, civil and religious.

The Committee, in behalf of this Town, present their thanks to our kind benefactors. We are partakers of your bounty, and we ask your prayers, which will, through our

Lord Jesus, be instrumental in obtaining from God, the mercies we so greatly need.

We are, with great esteem, Gentlemen, your obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

*To Messrs. John Swett, Edw'd Grow, Joseph Grant,
Selectmen of Old York.*



LETTER FROM MIDDLETOWN.

Middletown, Oct. 17th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your letter of the 13th of May last, directed to Mr. Benjamin Henshaw, with his answer thereto, has been communicated to us ; since which there have been several meetings of this Town, to consider the subject of your letter, when the following persons were chosen their Committee of Correspondence, to wit, Matthew Tallcot, Richard Alsop, Titus Hosmer, Solomon Sage, Roger Riley, Nath. Gilbert, Isaac Miller, Eben'r Johnson, Stephen Hubbard, Francis Clark, Philip Mortimer, Benjamin Henshaw and George ; and the Town unanimously declared their resolution to concur in every necessary measure to procure their rights and liberties entire and undiminished.

The various measures adopted by the British Parliament, in their last sessions, and the steps Administration have already taken to carry them into execution, so plainly demonstrate our common danger, that this Town cannot assume it as a merit, that a claim to divest us of property, liberty and life, set up and asserted many years ago, and now attempted to be enforced by measures equally cruel, arbitrary and unjust ; by a blow aimed at our head, in the destruction of our ancient capital ; by the grossest violation of royal faith in tearing up by the roots the ancient charter of your Province ; by all the evils of Pandora's box let loose in the new form of government imposed upon you ;—

the security and protection given to your enemies and oppressors by the last Acts, and the train of licensed villains entrusted to shake the rod over you, have roused our attention and zeal, and determined us to unite with our brethren through the continent, in a determined opposition to the destructive measures pursuing against us, and a virtuous and manly struggle, in every lawful and constitutional way, for our liberties and rights, which must never be given up nor parted with.

In the course of things we are sensible many dangers will threaten, many evils overtake, and many hardships be felt and endured by those parts of America that shall become particularly obnoxious to the British ministry; and that craft and policy, as well as open insult and violence, will be used to force a submission of particular places and Provinces, to weaken and disunite us, to which we apprehend it is our duty to oppose a constant adherence to our rights, and a union of every part of America against the violence and oppression which may threaten or be inflicted on any part of it. The Town of Boston is honored by the first attack. As she has been the first to explain, assert and vindicate the rights of America, and detect and hold up to public view, stripped of every color and disguise, the wicked plans devised against them, her glory would have been incomplete, had she not been the first to suffer in the common cause. We congratulate you that you are found worthy to suffer in so good a cause. The resentment of wicked men are [is] a glorious proof of merit in the objects of their revenge. Hitherto we have nothing to censure, nothing to desire in the hard part you have to support. We presume not to advise, we admire and applaud your constancy and perseverance, and do not so much wish, as assure ourselves, they will continue and rise superior to the malice, fraud and policy of your and our enemies.

We feel ourselves greatly interested in your sufferings, their cause and event, and think it our indispensable duty to furnish you with every support and aid in our power. The inclosed bill of lading is the contents of a small collection, which we commit to you to be issued according to your discretion for that purpose. This we consider as the first

payment of a large debt we owe you, and we shall be ready to repeat it, from time to time, as long as your necessity and our ability shall continue.

We more than wish, we pray for your prosperity ; that you may have virtue to do and suffer all that wisdom and sound policy require of you at this juncture ; that the craft and subtilty, the force and violence of your adversaries may be frustrated, and that you may have the honor, the glory, to save yourselves and your country from ruin.

We are, Gentlemen, your assured friends, and obliged humble servants, in the name and in behalf of the Committee of Correspondence at Middletown.

TITUS HOSMER, *Clerk.*

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing, the Committee have directed me to inclose copies of the bills of lading only, and retain the originals, as all our subscriptions are not collected. The freight is not paid. One of the bills of lading is taken by the young man that was employed by us, appointing payment of the freight in Boston, and as the vessel is gone, it is now too late to recall it. You will please to draw upon me for the freight of the whole, and your bill shall be honored upon sight. We have enough subscribed and collected to answer the freight.

I am, Gentlemen, your humble servant,

TITUS HOSMER.

To the Committee of Correspondence at Boston.

REPLY TO MIDDLETOWN.

Boston, Nov. 17th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your kind letter of the 17th of October, came safe to hand. When we reflect on the great importance of the controversy in which we are engaged ; when we consider, that America will be free and happy, or servilely wretched, according as we conduct ourselves, we tremble. But that

we are contending for our rights—that the continent supports us—makes us confident and determined. The plan which has been so long concerted to deprive America of her rights, seems now to be executing, and that the ministry have chosen the Town of Boston as their first victim.

That we are sequestered from all America, for a criterion by which they shall determine how far the idea of despotic government is compatible with the sentiments of free born Americans, gives us no concern, because the spirit which is discovered in Middletown, has diffused itself through the continent. Many have been the devices, subtle have been the schemes, and low the artifices made use of, to sow dissension and division; but the virtue of our country has risen superior to them all, and we see a band now formed, which will encourage our friends and confound our enemies. The ministry have hitherto kept the people of Great Britain ignorant of the true state of America. They have by bribes and falsehoods deceived the nation. Truth and justice were never so effectually enveloped in the thick clouds of calumny and detraction. The mercenary writers they have employed to misrepresent, vilify, and abuse the Bostonians, afford us a striking instance of the base methods they pursue to ruin us. We have, however, the best grounds to think, that the tide is turning in our favor. The eyes of the people of Britain begin to be opened. “The coolness, temper, and firmness of the Americans’ proceedings,—the unanimity of all the Colonies in the same sentiments of their rights, and of the injustice offered to Boston, and the patience with which those injuries are at present borne, without the least appearance of submission, have a good deal surprised and disappointed our enemies; and the tone of public conversation, which has been so violently against us, begins evidently to turn.” This is the language of as good a friend as America has in England, and whose authority we can rely on. And if this most desirable change had taken place before the proceedings of the American Congress were known in England, what may we expect upon their being known? Had not the present ministry discovered

such rancor and such malice in their proceedings with respect to America, we should expect every thing to our wishes. But we have had such full demonstration of their diabolical designs against us, that we can look for nothing from them but what our own virtue and spirit can extort.

The regular, firm, and spirited conduct of the continent, if they should even fail of success, will eternally redound to their honor ; and should they meet that success which their cause merits, they must be the happiest people on whom the sun shines. The propriety and zeal with which the Town of Middletown have treated the indignity which is offered to their country, seems to be a renewing that glorious ardor which warmed the breasts of their progenitors. It is a disposition which has heretofore been attended with prosperity. The support which they have formerly so liberally afforded the Town of Boston, in their sufferings, demands our warmest gratitude. This recent instance of their good wishes for our success, and the readiness and forwardness which they discover to do everything in their power for maintaining and preserving the rights of their country, and for supporting and feeding any who are immediate sufferers by the vengeance of their enemies, cannot fail to excite gratitude from every friend to the rights of mankind, and from the Town of Boston in particular. We are not insensible, although there is a probability that our grievances will be redressed, that every thing yet depends on our own virtue and resolution ; great patience, vigilance, and public spirit are still necessary. The point has been so long and so strenuously contended for, that our enemies never will give it up, till they are compelled by the last and most unavoidable necessity. Our cause is so just, and we are so sensible how necessary it is to defend it, that we have no doubt, but with the blessing of Heaven upon us, and upon the many good friends engaged for us, we shall be able to hold on, and hold out, until oppression, injustice and tyranny shall be superseded by freedom, justice and good government. And we cannot but flatter ourselves that while we are contending for justice for ourselves, we shall be instrumental in calling back that virtue which

of late years has fled from the councils of our parent country.

We are, Gentlemen, your friends and obliged humble servants,

JOSEPH WARREN, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

P. S.—We have just now, by Capt. Sheppard, from London, received His Majesty's proclamation for dissolving the late Parliament of Great Britain, whose conduct respecting America will be remembered with horror through all succeeding generations.

To the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Middletown.



LETTER FROM MIDDLEBOROUGH.

Middleborough, Oct. 18th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN AND FELLOW CITIZENS,

Deeply impressed with a sense of your uncommon sufferings from the operation of an Act of the British Parliament, which for cruelty and injustice is unparalleled in history, we have the honor of receiving your resolves, and the Towns contiguous to Boston, respecting the supply of the troops. We are well pleased with the contents, and cheerfully co-operate with you, in that and every other rational measure, to the last penny of our fortunes, and the last drop of our blood. We have sent by the bearer, about eighty bushels of grain, for the use of the industrious poor, with the Resolves of the Town, in which, if any thing amiss, please to correct, in order for the press.

The painful sensations that constantly afflict us for the losses of your merchants, shopkeepers, and mechanics, and all your inhabitants, in stopping your Port, induces us to desire you to take an exact estimate of your estates as you conveniently can, and we make no doubt of the generosity of your American brethren, on your receiving an ample indemnification.

We regret the decay of God's image in man, when we behold the inhabitants of the other continent, so entirely sunk in luxury and despotism. The eyes of all the friends of liberty are now fixed on America, and chiefly on your illustrious Town. Stand firm in the glorious cause of liberty, which is the principal thing that can make life desirable here, and promises to her pious votaries a glorious immortality hereafter.

Gentlemen, we subscribe ourselves your affectionate friends, and fellow-sufferers,

Per order of the Committee of Correspondence,

JOHN WESTERN, *Clerk.*

To the Committee of Correspondence in Boston.

REPLY TO MIDDLEBOROUGH.

Boston, Oct. 25th, 1774.

SIR,

Last week Mr. William Cooper, the Town Clerk, handed to the Committee of Donations, your acceptable favor of the 18th inst. Our good friend, Mr. Billington of Middleborough, has delivered us fifty-one bushels of rye, and thirty bushels corn; a generous present from the worthy inhabitants of that patriotic Town. The bowels of the industrious poor, suffering by means of that oppressive and cruel Act, the Boston Port Bill, commonly so called, will doubtless be greatly refreshed, and many thanksgivings go up to God on account thereof. May the Lord reward our kind benefactors a thousand fold into their own bosoms. Please to present the thankful acknowledgments of this Committee, in behalf of the Town, for this instance of their Christian sympathy and affection.

It affords much satisfaction that the conduct of this Town, hitherto, has met with the approbation of our brethren at Middleborough, as well as elsewhere. We have great difficulties and dangers to encounter, and they seem to be increasing, but we may set up our *Ebenezer*, and say, "Hitherto God hath helped us." In all our darkness, we are not without some rays of light; but what is in the

womb of Providence, we cannot say. "It is not for us to know the times, or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power." Duty is ours, events are God's. To Him *let us look*, for all that wisdom, meekness, firmness, and resolution, which our peculiar circumstances call for; and may we be enabled to pray and not faint.

Your letter breathes a noble spirit, and becoming zeal and ardor in the glorious cause of American freedom, both civil and religious. It serves to encourage and animate us to persevere, in a manly, steady opposition to all tyrants, their abettors, and iniquitous measures. We may not boast of our own strength, but we may and ought to hope and trust in God. None were ever ashamed, who put their trust in him. If he be for us, no matter who or how many are against us. By his help, and that only, we shall be enabled to persevere.

The generosity manifested in your proposal for taking an exact estimate of our estates, is very striking and endearing, and is a superadded instance of the benevolence of your hearts. It would be matter of no small difficulty, especially as many of this Town are from day to day so engaged in affairs which concern *the general interest*, in this day of trial, as that all our attention and time is required, and all little enough. We would hope we shall never be reduced to such a necessity; if we should, we must do the best we can. However this may happen, our obligations and gratitude to our brethren are not a little increased, by so kind and charitable a proposal. It is not easy, and we do not know that it is possible, to determine with any degree of precision what loss and damage this Province and Town have sustained, by the almost annihilation of their trade and commerce. Some doubt whether two hundred thousand pounds sterling would be a compensation even to the Town. But when we take into consideration the anxiety and distress of mind the inhabitants have endured, we question whether even the wealth of Great Britain could countervail the damage. And for what? What has the Province, what has Boston done to deserve the carrying into execution measures so unjust, so oppressing, so cruel, so destructive? It greatly stands in hand the promoters and favorers of such a pernicious plan, in stead, to have a

satisfactory answer ready, when it shall at another, an infinitely more important day, be inquired of them, 'What have the Bostonians done to merit such cruel treatment?' But we forbear.

Inclosed is a printed half sheet, giving an account of the proceedings of this Committee relative to the charitable donations committed to their trust. If it shall be satisfactory to our kind benefactors, our end will in a good measure be answered; but we cannot expect, in this corrupt state of things, to escape the censure of our foes. We hope our brethren will not place an undue confidence in the inhabitants of this much abused and distressed Town, nor raise their expectation too high concerning us; but if our gracious God shall afford us strength equal to the day, we trust our brethren will not be disappointed.

We are, with great esteem and much affection, Gentlemen, your much obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To the Town Clerk and Committee of Correspondence at Middleborough.



LETTER FROM SAMUEL MOODY.

Newbury Fall, Oct. 20th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

As a testimony of my good will to the cause of liberty and my country, and my sympathy with the Town of Boston, under their present extreme sufferings, be pleased to accept for their industrious poor, by the hands of Doctor Cooper, five guineas, with the sincerest wishes of success to your generous efforts to recover and perpetuate all our just rights and privileges.

I am, with great esteem, and respect, Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL MOODY.

To the Committee of Ways and Means in Boston.

REPLY TO SAMUEL MOODY.

Boston, Oct. 27th, 1774.

SIR,

Yesterday the Committee of Donations (or means and ways) received, by the hands of the Rev. Doctor Cooper, your obliging letter of 20th instant; at the same time, also, your very generous donation of five guineas, for the relief of the industrious poor of Boston. The spirit of your letter is very sympathetic and truly noble. The Town are extremely obliged, and this Committee, in their behalf, return our grateful acknowledgments, for these expressions of your benevolence and charity. We take the freedom to inclose you a printed half sheet, containing an account of the proceedings of this Committee respecting the donations with which we are entrusted. We hope it will be satisfactory to you. We have been hitherto, we trust, directed and helped, and, by the favor and blessing of God, we shall yet persevere in our efforts to perpetuate all the just rights of this Province, and of all North America.

And are, with great esteem, Sir, your affectionate friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Mr. Samuel Moody.



LETTER FROM MARBLEHEAD.

Marblehead, Oct. 20th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We received your favor by Capt. Herbert, and in conformity waited on the officers of the customs to know what must be done. They informed that a third of the cargo must be taken out, to have the vessel in order for searching, (the Captain at that time intimated he had some staves on board as dunnage; they told him and us that would not be regarded,) in consequence of the prescription of their highnesses. We provided a vessel to receive as much of the corn as might be thought necessary by the scrutinizers.

The vessel accordingly received so much of the cargo as was directed by the officers to qualify her for searching; but alas, the officers, when waited on to search the vessel, declared the staves, the dunnage, must come out. We have since agreed with the master of the vessel whom we first applied to, to receive the corn, to take the whole cargo and carry to Boston. Since our engagement with him, have seen your order for four hundred bushels to be delivered Mr. Vernon, which is accordingly done. You will receive the remainder of the corn, (God willing,) by the bearer of this, with the pork and flour. We have made no agreement with the master for freight of the articles, but submit it to you; he being a son of liberty, we conclude will not be unreasonable. We by him remit you the balance of fifteen bushels damaged corn, and seven of good, sold by Capt. Jones, the bearer of the Maryland donation, which he paid us, on being told his corn was twenty-two bushels deficient. We have paid the laborers we hired to deliver the cargo, out of said sum, and remit the remainder.

We are, Gentlemen, your humble servants,

J. ORNE, *per order.*

	£.	s.	d.
N. B.—15 bushels damaged corn, a 1/4	1	0	0
7 ditto good, a 2/8		18	8
	1	18	8
Deduct 5/2 paid for labor,		5	2
	1	13	6

Capt. Herbert has just informed us, to acquaint you, that he will not be able to wait on you at Boston, as such, begs you will write him.

To the Committee of Donations at Boston.



REPLY TO SCITUATE AND GLOUCESTER.

Boston, Oct. 21st, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Selectmen, the Committee of Correspondence, and the Committee of Donations for this Town, being this day unexpectedly summoned to Cambridge, to attend the Pro-

vincial Congress upon some matters of importance in our public affairs, I am directed by the Committee of Donations to acknowledge the receipt of your kind and generous donation of one hundred and twenty sheep, received by the hands of our worthy friend, Mr. Ezekiel Corwell, for the benefit of the industrious poor of the Town of Boston, suffering by means of the cruel and oppressive Act of Parliament, commonly called the Boston Port Bill,—which I trust will be held in detestation and abhorrence by all good men in this and future ages. Our distresses are very great, but the benevolence of our friends supports and refreshes our spirits, and you may rest assured that Boston will suffer *all* rather than submit to the power of tyranny. The cordial acknowledgments of this Committee, in behalf of the Town of Boston, are hereby presented to our friends in Scituate.

I am, with great esteem, in behalf and by order of the Committee, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ALEX'R HODGDON, *Clerk.*

N. B.—The above was sent to Scituate. A copy of this was sent to Gloucester acknowledging the receipt of ninety-five sheep.

*To the Committee of Correspondence at Scituate and Gloucester, Colony of Rhode Island.*¹



REPLY TO TOLLAND.

Boston, Oct. 24th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your kind and generous donation of ninety-five sheep, by the hands of our worthy friend, Mr. Hope Lathrop, which shall be applied to the relief of our poor, suffering by means of the cruel and oppressive Port Bill, according to the intention of the generous donors. We are struggling under the

¹ The Colony of Rhode Island was prompt to express a sympathy for Boston. The Essex Gazette of May 24, 1774, has the following paragraph: "On the 17th of May the inhabitants of the Town of Providence *Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence of this Town be desired to inform the Town of Boston, that we do not consider ourselves disinterested in the present alarming conduct

heavy hand of tyranny. Our troubles are exceeding great; but the kindness and benevolence of our friends and brethren in Tolland, as well as other places, greatly refreshes and raises our spirits. You may depend upon it, that by the divine help and blessing, Boston will suffer everything with patience and firmness, that a cruel and arbitrary administration can inflict upon us, even to the loss of fortune and life, rather than submit, in any one instance, to the power of tyranny. We trust we have a righteous cause, and that the Supreme Ruler of the universe will in his own time and way arise and scatter the dark clouds that

of the British Parliament towards them; but view the whole of the American Colonies as equally concerned in the event' This meeting proposed 'a Congress, as soon as may be, of the Colonies and Provinces of North America.' "

The Boston Gazette of May 23, 1774, names the towns of Newport and Westerly, as among those who, thus early, had given assurances of sympathy and union; and contains a letter dated Westerly, 19th May, 1774, which concludes in the following terms: "This horrid attack upon the Town of Boston, we consider not as an attempt upon that Town singly, but upon the whole American continent. We are therefore determined to use our whole influence for the support of the Town of Boston, in the same manner as if the attack had been made on the metropolis of this Colony. And we doubt not but the other Colonies will consider this arbitrary and tyrannical edict in the same light, and heartily unite with the friends of liberty in Boston, in support of the common cause." A town meeting was held in Newport, on the 20th of May, which passed resolutions expressing "the deepest sense of the injuries done to the Town of Boston," by the Port Bill; and ordered these resolutions to be sent to the Boston Committee of Correspondence.

The following brief article was widely circulated in the journals. It is here copied from the Essex Gazette of May 31, 1774: "Newport, Rhode Island, May 16, 1774. Join or Die!! The Act of Parliament for blockading the harbor of Boston, in order to reduce its spirited inhabitants to the most servile and mean compliances ever attempted to be imposed on a free people, is allowed to be infinitely more alarming and dangerous to our common liberties, than even that hydra the Stamp Act, (which was defeated by our firmness and union,) and must be read with a glowing indignation by every real friend of freedom, in Europe and America. . . . Though the Town of Boston is now intended to be made a victim to ministerial wrath, yet the insult and indignity offered to our virtuous brethren in that capital, who have so nobly stood as a barrier against slavery, ought to be viewed in the same odious light, as a direct hostile invasion of every Province on the continent, whose inhabitants are now called upon, by interest, honor and humanity, to stand forth with firmness and unanimity for the relief, support and animation of our brethren in the insulted, besieged capital of Massachusetts-Bay. . . . The Generals of despotism are now drawing the lines of circumvallation around our bulwarks of liberty, and nothing but unity, resolution and perseverance can save ourselves and posterity from what is worse than death—slavery."

The Boston Gazette of July 25, 1774, has the following, dated Newport, July 18: "Many parts of the country are raising subscriptions for the humane and generous purpose of supporting the poor of Boston; and there would have been a subscription vigorously put forward in this Town, last week, had it not been for the supplies which were sent from other parts, on which account it was thought best to omit it till the next session of our Assembly, when it is not doubted they

at present hang over us. We submit to him, and ask your prayers at the throne of grace for us.

The sincere thanks of this Committee, in behalf of this greatly distressed and injured Town, are hereby presented to our worthy friends in Tolland, for their kind assistance, in this our day of trial.

We are, with great esteem, Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen,

HENRY HILL, } Per order the Commit-
tee of Donations.

To the Gentlemen Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Tolland, in Connecticut.

will do something handsome, it being absolutely more necessary to assist the inhabitants of that Town, in this last struggle for American liberty, than if it had been laid in ashes."

At a town meeting held in Providence August 12, its deputies in the General Assembly were instructed in the following terms:—"Gentlemen: The sufferings and distresses of the people of the Town of Boston, occasioned by a relentless execution of that cruel edict for blocking up the port, awakens our attention and excites our compassion. Their cause is our cause; and unless aid and succor be afforded them, they may be discouraged into a hurtful submission; and ministerial vengeance may next be directed against this Colony, and in the end, alight upon all. You are therefore requested to use your endeavors, at the next session of the General Assembly, to procure a grant, to be made from this Colony, of such sum of money as they may think fit, towards relieving and mitigating the difficulties and distresses which that Town must experience from the operation of that most unrighteous inhibition, the hostile manner of carrying the same into force, and a general arrest of their liberties. Permit us to observe, that in doing this it will be evidenced, that as a community, we shall do unto others as we would that they should do unto us in a like circumstance; and that it will be a greater testimony of unanimity in the general concerns of America, in this day of struggle and danger, than private contributions, and far more equal."

The Boston Gazette, of August 22, has a letter dated Newport, August 19, which says: "The tories in this Town, and some other parts of the Colony, are endeavoring to prevent any grant being made by our Assembly, and we are to have a town meeting this day to instruct the Deputies to vote for a grant for the Town of Boston. Our present Assembly, last session, promised they would assist the Town of Boston; and as this Assembly can never exist again, after next week, if they don't do something, they will sink themselves into the lowest degree of contempt."

The Essex Gazette, of September 20, has the following, dated Boston, September 19: "We hear that collections are making in the several Towns of the Colony of Rhode Island, for the suffering inhabitants here. It is said fifteen hundred dollars are already raised in the Town of Newport; and that the Hon. Joseph Babcock, of Westerly, had generously subscribed one hundred dollars for the like purpose."

At a Town meeting held in Providence, November 21, 1774, it was "*Voted*, That the Committee of Correspondence of this Town be hereby empowered to receive of the town treasury the sum of one hundred and twenty-five pounds, lawful money, and to transmit the same to the Committee of the Town of Boston for receiving donations for the distressed inhabitants of Boston and Charlestown; and the treasurer is hereby ordered to pay said sum out of the first money he shall receive of the tax now ordered."—Ed.

LETTER FROM CONCORD.

*Province of New Hampshire,
Concord, Oct. 29th, 1774.*

SIR,

The people of this Town have subscribed a considerable quantity of pease, for our suffering brethren in the Town of Boston, part of which I now send you by the bearer, the remainder I shall forward as soon as possible. You will excuse my giving you this trouble, not being particularly acquainted with any other Gentleman of the Committee.

I remain, your most obedient and very humble servant,
TIMO. WALKER, JUN.

To Mr. Henry Hill.

REPLY TO CONCORD.

Boston, Nov. 11th, 1774.

DEAR SIR,

This morning Mr. Samuel Ames delivered me your agreeable favor of 29th October, informing me that the people of the Town of Concord, have generously subscribed a considerable quantity of pease, for their suffering brethren in this Town, part of which you have sent, and the receipt of which I hereby acknowledge, and in behalf of the Town desire you to accept our sincere thanks for this proof of your sympathy with us under our present trials, which, I assure you, are very heavy, and under which we fear we should sink, were it not for the support which, under Providence, we receive from our kind friends and brethren in this, and the neighboring Colonies.

I am, Dear Sir, your obliged, humble servant,

HENRY HILL.

To Mr. Timo. Walker, Jr., in Concord, Province New Hampshire.

REPLY TO SMITHFIELD AND JOHNSTON.

Boston, Nov. 2d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

By the hands of Capt. Stephen Whipple and Mr. William Potter, the Committee of Donations received your very acceptable present of one hundred and fifty sheep. The Committee, in behalf of the Town, return our grateful acknowledgments to our kind and generous benefactors, the patriotic inhabitants of Smithfield and Johnston. Such bounties greatly refresh our spirits, and encourage us to persevere in the glorious cause of true, constitutional freedom and liberty. We consider the cause as common, and therefore a cause in the defence of which, all North America ought to be united; and it affords us, as it must every true-hearted American, a peculiar pleasure, that such a union prevails at this day, as bodes well to the rights and liberties of North America, civil and religious.

What judgment are we to form respecting those who would affect to be calm and unconcerned spectators, in this day of trouble and distress. But what shall we think and say of those who are constantly endeavoring, in a private, and when they dare, in a more open manner, to carry into execution a plan the most detestable, and calculated for the destruction of every thing accounted valuable and dear in the eyes of Americans. Surely, then, Americans must, they will, exert themselves to their utmost at such a day as this.

The inhabitants of this Town are called, in providence, to stand, as it were, in the front of the battle. We have reason, in the first place, to be thankful to God, who hath thus far helped us, and nextly, to our generous and kind benefactors, by their affectionate letters, as well as their timely donations. May the Lord reward them. We greatly need wisdom, direction, prudence, zeal, patience and resolution. Our Christian friends may, by their prayers to God, contribute much towards a happy issue of these severe trials, and those mercies which are the fruit of the prayers of faith will prove mercies indeed. But we have not time to enlarge.

Inclosed is a printed half sheet respecting the conduct

of the Committee on the improvement of the charities of our friends, which we hope will be to their satisfaction.

Gentlemen, your much obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To Mr. Daniel Morey, Jr., Town Clerk of the Town of Smithfield.
Acknowledging receipt of 150 sheep.

And to

Mr. Caleb Harris, Town Clerk of the Town of Johnston.
Acknowledging receipt of 57 sheep.



REPLY TO CANDIA.

Boston, Nov. 4th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Donations have received your very acceptable and kind present of ten dollars, and fifty-six sheep, from the Town of Chester, and twenty-eight sheep from the parish of Candia, in New Hampshire, and in behalf of the Town, return their grateful acknowledgments to our benevolent and generous benefactors, the inhabitants of Chester and parish of Candia, aforesaid. Such donations greatly relieve us under our great and increasing difficulties, occasioned by the severe Boston Port Bill, and other disagreeable measures now carrying on against us. Inclosed you have a printed account, in which you will see the conduct of the Committee in the improvement of the charities of our friends, which we hope will be satisfactory.

We are, Gentlemen, with great esteem, your obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

JOHN SOLEY, *per order.*

To the Selectmen of the Town of Chester, and parish of Candia, New Hampshire.



VOTE OF TIVERTON.

At a town meeting held in the Town of Tiverton, on Tuesday the 30th August, 1774, Edward Gray, Esq., moderator, it was voted,—That Mr. Benjamin Jenks, Mr. Pardon Gray and Mr. William Durfee, be a Committee to go

throughout said Town of Tiverton, to see what the inhabitants of said Town would subscribe towards the relief of the poor of Boston, and to make report to said Town, at their next meeting, &c. This meeting is adjourned to the first Monday in October next, as of record appears.

Witness, WALTER COOK, *Town Clerk.*

Received by Benjamin Jenks and Pardon Gray, Nov'r, 72 sheep.

Tiverton, Nov. 5th, 1774.

At said meeting by adjournment, on the 3d October, 1774, it was voted,—That said Committee was thereby impowered to collect the said subscriptions, and lay out the same, according to their discretion, as they should think most to advantage for said poor of Boston, and to be in readiness to [depart] for Boston with the same, on the 10th day of November next, as of record appears.

Witness, WALTER COOK, *Town Clerk.*

Tiverton, Nov. 5th, 1774.

REPLY TO TIVERTON.

Boston, Nov. 12th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Having received by the hands of Messrs. Benjamin Jenks, Pardon Gray, and William Durfee, seventy-two sheep, for the relief of the poor, now suffering in this Town by means of the oppressive Boston Port Bill, the Committee of Donations, in behalf of the Town, return their grateful acknowledgments to our kind and generous benefactors, the inhabitants of the Town of Tiverton. Such bounties are a great relief to us under our distressed circumstances, for which we have abundant reason to be thankful to God, for his goodness to us herein, as also to our kind and benevolent friends, for the help and assistance afforded to us in this day of our distress. We send you the inclosed, that you may see the conduct of the Committee in disposing of the charities of our friends, which we hope will be satisfactory.

We are, with great respect,

JOHN SOLEY, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Mr. Samuel Durfee, President of the Town Council of Tiverton.

LETTER FROM FAIRFIELD.

Fairfield, 8th Nov., 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Town of Fairfield, by donations, have collected seven hundred and fifty bushels of grain, of various kinds, which is ordered to you by Capt. Thorp, bound for Salem, which we wish safe to hand, and hope this little testimony of our attachment to the common cause, will comfort the hearts of all those worthy patriots in the Town of Boston, who have so manfully exerted themselves in the cause of liberty, as well as those poor who are suffering under the operation of the unjust and cruel Port Bill. Persevere in your glorious opposition. We are not insensible of your sufferings, and hope we shall yet consider ourselves bound to afford you such succor and relief, as our circumstances and your wants demand.

We are with great truth and regard, your most obedient servant.

Signed by order of the Town's Committee of Donations,

JONATHAN STURGES.

To be communicated to the Committee of Ways and Means in Boston, or Overseers of the Poor.

To Mr. Henry Hill, &c.,

Committee of Ways and Means at Boston.

REPLY TO FAIRFIELD.

Boston, Nov. 24th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The testimony which the patriotic inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield have given of their attachment to the common and glorious cause of liberty, by their liberal donation of seven hundred and fifty bushels of grain, by Capt. Thorp, has afforded much comfort, as well as seasonable relief to their friends in Boston, who are now suffering under the cruel rod of ministerial tyranny and oppression. The sympathy of our friends is a great support to us under our trials, notwithstanding the greatness and severity of them; and we trust, through the favor of our God, we shall be enabled to persevere in our opposition to

the enemies of America, and so answer the hopes and expectation of our friends, of whose generous donations we trust we shall ever retain a grateful sense.

We are particularly obliged by the assurances you give us, "that you are not insensible of our sufferings," and the hope you express, you shall yet consider yourselves bound to afford us such succor and relief as your circumstances and our wants may demand. May a kind Providence bountifully reward your liberality and kindness, and the blessing of him that was ready to perish come down and rest on the heads of the generous inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield.

We hope the inclosed account of the manner in which the Committee are distributing the donations of our friends and benefactors, in whose cause, (as well as our own,) this Town is suffering, will meet with your approbation, as it will afford great satisfaction to

Your obliged friends and humble servant,

HENRY HILL, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Mr. Jonathan Sturges and others, Committee for collecting donations in the Town of Fairfield, in Connecticut.



LETTER FROM REHOBOTH.

Rehoboth, Nov. 9th, 1774.

To the Committee of Donations of the Town of Boston.

GENTLEMEN,

Whereas a number of the inhabitants of the aforesaid Town of Rehoboth, have raised and given a number of sheep and some money, as a donation for the poor sufferers of the Town of Boston, we the subscribers, hath delivered to Capt. Ebenezer Peck, fifty-four sheep, and twelve pounds in money, and to Capt. Shubael Peck, thirty-seven sheep, to drive down and deliver to the abovesaid Committee of Donations for the use abovesaid.

$\frac{54}{37}$ } 91 sheep.

AARON READ, } *Selectmen*
WILLIAM COLE, } *of*
SHUBAEL PECK, } *Rehoboth.*

REPLY TO REHOBOTH.

Boston, November 11th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The sympathy and generosity which a number of the patriotic inhabitants of the Town of Rehoboth, have shown towards the Town of Boston, suffering under the iron rod of tyranny and oppression, demand their grateful acknowledgments. And we, the Committee of Donations, accordingly transmit them to you, by our worthy friends, Capt. Ebenezer Peck and Capt. Shubael Peck, by whom we have received ninety-one sheep, and fourteen pounds, eight shillings and ninepence in cash, which we assure you shall be applied to the benevolent purpose for which they were sent. We have inclosed you an account of the manner in which we are distributing the liberal donations of our generous benefactors, as we think ourselves obliged to satisfy them that they are properly applied. We earnestly wish you the best of blessings, and subscribe ourselves,

Your affectionate, though greatly afflicted friends and brethren,

HENRY HILL, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Messrs. Aaron Read, William Cole, and Shubael Peck, Selectmen of the Town, Rehoboth.

N. B. Copy of this was sent to East Greenwich, acknowledging the receipt of twenty-five sheep, and four oxen, received per the hands of Messrs. Preserved Pierce and William Pierce.

Signed, JOHN SOLEY.

Directed to the Committee of Correspondence for East Greenwich, in the Colony of Rhode Island.



LETTER FROM NATHAN APPLETON.

Salem, Nov. 9th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

I have shipped on board Capt. Walker, thirty-five casks of rice, part of that which Capt. Derby has stored for the Town. The schooner belongs to Mr. John Webb,

of Boston. Capt. Walker presumes that Mr. Webb will not charge any thing for the freight, but expects to be held harmless in case he should. Capt. Walker was going to take wood on board to carry him up to Boston, but readily accepted the rice, I agreeing to pay all extra charges. I do not find any flax in Town and am apprehensive I shall not, therefore would not have you depend upon it. I believe we shall dispose of all Capt. Williams's wheat and rye. Capt. Loveland was sailed before I got down.

Tendering the Committee any further services, and wishing them prosperity, I remain with great respect, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

NATH'L APPLETON.

To the Committee of Donations for the Town of Boston.

31 Teirces, }
4 half Trs. } Rice.



REPLY TO WETHERSFIELD.

Boston, November, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We would with gratitude acknowledge the receipt of fifty-five and three-quarters bushels rye, seven and three-quarters of wheat, and eight and three-quarters of Indian corn, received by Capt. Solomon Loveland, from our worthy brethren of Wethersfield, being a second donation to the poor, suffering by means of the tyrannical Port Bill. We cannot but eye the hand of Providence, inspiring our brethren in the Colony of Connecticut, and indeed throughout this continent, to assist and strengthen this distressed Town. We trust our sufferings will, in the end, be for the advantage of North America, and are therefore animated to persevere in a cause which we reckon the whole continent are concerned in.

We wish you the smiles of Heaven, and the divine protection, and are, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

B. AUSTIN, } Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To Ezekiel Williams, Esq., and others, the Committee of Correspondence at Wethersfield.

LETTER FROM COLCHESTER.

Colchester, Nov. 15th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We send you by Capt. John Chamberlain, the bearer hereof, five cattle and ninety-four sheep, which are given by the inhabitants of Colchester, to our distressed brethren, the inhabitants of the Town of Boston. Major Henry Champ[ion], one of the Committee of Correspondence, has already forwarded part of our Donations. Capt. Chamberlain undertakes, on his own cost, to convey what we now send by him; we wish the same safe to hand.

We are, with great esteem, Gentlemen, your most humble and obedient servants,

DUDLEY WRIGHT,	}	<i>Committee of Correspondence.</i>
ELIAS WORTHINGTON,		
JOHN WATROUS,		

To the Gentlemen Committee of Correspondence in Boston, in the Province Massachusetts Bay.

REPLY TO COLCHESTER.

Boston, Nov. 23d, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We have to acknowledge your favor of the 15th ult., and we heartily thank you for the very generous donations accompanying the same, viz., five cattle and ninety-four sheep, received by Capt. Chamberlain from our worthy brethren, the inhabitants of Colchester. Nor must we omit to acknowledge the kindness of Capt. Chamberlain, who has taken care of, and safely conveyed them to us at his own cost. The other part of your donation of cattle by Major Champion are not yet come to hand. We hear they are upon the road, and when received shall acknowledge the same, and again write you more fully; in the mean time would only observe to you, that the kindness and sympathy of our brethren in Connecticut refreshes our hearts and strengthens our hands to stand firm in the American cause. I am, in behalf of the Committee of

Donations for this Town, Gentlemen, your most obedient,
humble servant,

BEN. AUSTIN, { Per order of
the Committee.

*To Messrs Dudley Wright, Elias Worthington and John Watrous,
Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Colchester.*

Boston, Dec. 14th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We wrote you on the 23d ult., acknowledging the receipt of five cattle and ninety-four sheep, received by Capt. Chamberlain. Would now acquaint you the other part of your generous donation, by the bearer, Major Champion, we duly received, viz., three cattle and seven sheep; for all which we return you our hearty thanks, and may our sympathizing brethren of Colchester be abundantly rewarded for their kindness to this distressed Town, who are struggling under the cruel hand of tyranny. The remarkable union of the Colonies gives us spirit. We have a righteous cause, and we trust that Providence will soon confound the devices of our proud oppressors, and shortly restore those charter rights, which have been so cruelly wrested from us; and hope it will not be long before this metropolis will be a quiet habitation. And may our sufferings be the means of establishing the rights of North America.

I am, with great regard, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

BENJAMIN AUSTIN, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

*To Messrs. Dudley Wright, Elias Worthington and John Watrous,
Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Colchester.*



LETTER FROM LITCHFIELD.

Litchfield, 15th Nov., 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Deeply commiserating the unhappy fate of Boston and Charlestown, we have made a small collection in several

Towns in the County of Litchfield, for the relief of the sufferers in consequence of the Boston Port Bill, which you will receive at the hands of Mr. William Stanton, one of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Litchfield, who waits on you for that purpose. We imagine our collections would have been more considerable, notwithstanding [the] infant state of most of the Towns in this County, had not a report prevailed here, (which we doubt not originated from persons unfriendly to American liberty,) that the poor in Boston and Charlestown were abundantly supplied by the generous donations already made. We hope, (notwithstanding said report,) that our charity will be acceptable, and that by Mr. Stanton you will make us better acquainted with the circumstances of the poor in said Towns, assuring the people of Boston, &c., that we consider them as suffering in a common cause, and are ready to assist them with our lives and fortunes, whenever there shall be occasion. We also desire you will favor us with an account of interesting occurrences as you shall have convenient opportunity.

We are, Gentlemen, your humble servants,

LYNDE LORD, } *Committee of*
REUBEN SMITH, } *Correspondence.*

To the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO LITCHFIELD.

Boston, Nov. 24th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The ardor and zeal, the unanimity and firmness, of the truly respectable Colony of Connecticut, in asserting, and their manly, spirited resolutions, to support and defend the glorious cause of America, that is to say, true constitutional freedom and liberty, will be a means of handing down their names with esteem and honor to the latest generation. But when it shall also be made known what incontestable evidence they have given of their Christian sympathy and affection towards this much abused, distressed Town, by

their kind and very liberal donations, the honor and esteem must and will be increased in a proportionable degree.

An instance of this kind now presents itself, and the Committee of Donations do, in behalf of this once happy and highly favored Town, present our grateful acknowledgments to the patriotic inhabitants of Litchfield, for the obliging letter, dated Litchfield, 15th November, 1774, received per the hands of our good friend Mr. William Stanton, who has paid to the Treasurer of the Committee, nineteen pounds, two shillings and 11*d.*, and also delivered us fifty-one cattle; all for the relief of the sufferers in Boston and Charlestown, “in consequence of the Boston Port Bill.” We shall apply this noble donation to the benevolent purpose for which it is designed. The inclosed printed half sheet will certify you of the proceedings of the Committee hitherto, and that our worthy, suffering brethren of Charlestown have not been, or are to be overlooked.

We are sorry such reports had prevailed as you mention in your letter. Doubtless an enemy hath spread those reports; but as Mr. Stanton has been let into a general state of the donations already received, and of the poor in this Town, we think we need add nothing on this head, but refer you to him for satisfaction. Had our bottom been broader, we should before now have engaged in matters which would more generally and more lastingly have employed the poor. *But we must cut our coat according to our cloth.*

Your assurances that you consider the people of Boston “as suffering in one common cause, and are ready to assist them with your lives and fortunes whenever there shall be occasion,” is such an expression of public virtue and true greatness of spirit, as must tend to confound our foes, and inspire the inhabitants of this Town to stand their ground to the last. This, by the favor and blessing of God, we are determined to do. He only can make us to stand. Our most humble and thankful praises are due to Him, for what He has already wrought for us; and to Him our eye must be directed for all the further mercy and salvation we need.

We have nothing very remarkable, more than what you

will meet with in the public prints, but we shall at all times be glad to communicate any interesting intelligence, when an opportunity presents. If any of your friends should come this way, the Committee would be glad to know it.

We remain, with great esteem, Gentlemen, your affectionate and much obliged friends and servants,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

*To Messrs. Lynde Lord, and Reuben Smith,
Committee of Correspondence, Litchfield.*



REPLY TO GLASTENBURY.

Boston, Nov. 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The zeal which the patriotic inhabitants of the Town of Glastenbury have discovered in the glorious cause of liberty, by their readiness to support the Town of Boston under their present sufferings, is truly laudable; and the Committee of Donations readily embrace this opportunity of acknowledging, in the name of the Town, the obligations they are under to them for their generous donation of one hundred sixty-three and a half bushels of rye, and three shillings and four pence in cash, by the hand of Capt. Solomon Loveland, and assure them it shall be applied to the benevolent purpose for which it was sent.

When we consider the number and power of our adversaries, our hearts are almost ready to fail; but the justness of our cause and a firm reliance on the God of justice for support, inspire us with resolution to endure the extremest sufferings, rather than sacrifice the liberties of America. We flatter ourselves our friends will continue to support our industrious tradesmen, many of whom are obliged to mortgage their little habitations, and others to sell their plate and furniture for the maintenance of their families. Unhappy Boston, to what miserable circumstances art thou reduced!

That you may be informed of the manner in which we

are distributing the donations of our generous benefactors, we have inclosed you an account, which we hope will meet with the approbation of our friends in Glastenbury.

The following is an extract of a letter, dated London, September 3d, 1774, from a person of distinction to a gentleman here. He writes to this purpose,—that “he might have been expected over into these parts, but his friends urged his stay in London, until the result of the Congress should be known,—that the spirit, temper and firmness of this people, and their union respecting their rights, greatly surprised and disappointed our enemies,—that the current of conversation which heretofore had been much against us, was turned in our favor, and he (the writer) doubted not that by the time the Parliament met, it would be as general in our favor, as it had been against us; and that there would be a great number of our friends in Parliament the next session,—that the non-consumption agreement, if faithfully adhered to, must be the ruin of the Ministry, and our friends would succeed; when we might hope for such a constitutional charter from the King, Lords and Commons, as would be agreeable to us, and for the benefit of the whole empire.” This intelligence may be depended on.

We are, Gentlemen, your obliged friends and brethren,

HENRY HILL, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To the Committee of Correspondence in Glastenbury.



LETTER FROM NATHAN APPLETON.

Salem, Nov. 17th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

I wrote you the 9th instant, when I shipped thirty-five or thirty-six casks of rice, on board Capt. Jabez Walker, belonging to Mr. John Webb, which presume you have received. I say thirty-five and thirty-six casks, as the tally at delivering out the casks did not agree with the Captain's tally at receiving it on board. I shall be glad to receive the true quantity, in order to settle with Capt. Derby.

Yesterday I shipped on board Capt. Thorp, who is going up to Boston with grain from Fairfield, nineteen casks of rice, which is all that remained undisposed of. Capt. Thorp appeared very uneasy at being obliged to go up to Boston with grain from Fairfield; but hearing I had some rice to send up, applied for the freight of it, and to induce him the more cheerfully to go, I have put it on board, so that he will expect the customary freight, especially as he was obliged to go out of his way to take it on board. I have settled with Capt. Williams, for the grain he brought from Farmington. I propose to be at Boston next week, when I shall carry up the account, and also Capt. Derby's. They now ask twenty-five shillings for rye. If any more comes in, perhaps it will be as well to sell here. Inclosed is Fairfield letter, and Capt. Walker's receipt for the thirty-five casks rice, sent last week.

With the greatest respect, I remain, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

NATH'L APPLETON.

P. S.—Capt. Thorp has a small quantity of flax, which he proposes to carry to Boston. There is none good to be bought here.

To David Jeffries, Esq., Treasurer for the Town of Boston.



LETTER FROM BALTIMORE.

Baltimore, Nov. 21st, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Inclosed you have bill lading for one thousand seven hundred bushels of corn and rye, which is shipped on board the schooner Hawke, Nicholas Bartlett, master, bound to Marblehead, being a donation from the gentlemen of Talbot and Dorset Counties in this Province, for the use of the poor of Boston; of which donation the account we received was eight hundred and fifty-three bushels corn, and a barrel of Irish beef from the Committee of Talbot County; six hundred and twenty-two and a half bushels

corn and three hundred and fifty-nine bushels rye, from the Committee of Dorset County; but as the gentlemen who sent it to us observed that it was taken in by different measures, which might be variable, it accordingly fell short thirteen and a half bushels by our meas[ure]. Here you will please to observe, that there yet rests with us, one hundred and nineteen bushels corn, and the barrel of beef, which Capt. Bartlett could not take in; these we hope to get shipped in Capt. Gorham's vessel, belonging to your port, which we are now loading. The gentlemen who addressed us this grain, have engaged to remit us the amount of the freight thereof to Boston, so that we shall remit to Capt. Bartlett's owners.

We have the pleasure of informing you that we have accounts from several friends in York and Cumberland Counties, in Pennsylvania, that they are now collecting contributions for your poor, which we hope will be liberal, and which we hope to have the happiness of soon conveying to you.

We are, with the greatest respect, Gentlemen, your most humble servants,

SAML. and ROBT. PURVIANCE.

To the Committee for receiving Donations for the Poor of Boston.



LETTER FROM DURHAM.

Durham, in New Hampshire, Nov. 21st, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We take pleasure in transmitting to you, by Mr. Scammel, a few cattle, with a small sum of money, which a number of persons in this place, tenderly sympathizing with our suffering brethren in Boston, have contributed towards their support. With this, or soon after, you will receive the donations of a number in Lee, a parish lately set off from this Town, and in a few days, those of Dover, Newmarket, and other adjacent Towns. What you herewith receive, comes not from the opulent, but mostly from the industrious yeomanry in this parish. We have but a

few persons of affluent fortunes among us, but those have most cheerfully contributed to the relief of the distressed in your metropolis.

This is considered by us, not as a gift, or an act of charity, but of justice, as a small part of what we are in duty bound to communicate to those truly noble and patriotic advocates of American freedom, who are bravely standing in the gap between us and slavery, defending the common interests of a whole continent, and gloriously struggling in the cause of liberty. Upon you the eyes of all America are fixed. Upon your invincible patience, fortitude and resolution, (under God,) depends all that is dear to them and their posterity. May that superintendent gracious Being, whose ears are ever open to the cry of the oppressed, in answer to the incessant prayers of his people, defend our just cause, turn the counsels of our enemies into foolishness, deliver us from the hands of our oppressors, and make those very measures, by which they are endeavoring to compass our destruction, the means of fixing our invaluable rights and privileges upon a more firm and lasting basis.

While with the most painful sensations we reflect, that prior to the commencement of the evils which now surround us, supineness and inattention to our common interests had so far prevailed, as almost wholly to sink in luxury and dissipation the inhabitants of these Colonies; we are bound to acknowledge the divine wisdom and goodness, which by these calamities roused us from our lethargy, and taught us to defend those inestimable liberties, which otherwise must have been forever lost to us and our posterity; and to evince his determination to save America, directed the attacks of our enemies to that quarter where the virtue and firmness of the inhabitants could brave the shafts of military tyrants, and set at defiance the threats of an exasperated and despotic minister.

We are pleased to find, that the methods by which the ministry sought to divide, have happily united us, and by every new act of oppression, more and more strengthened union. And we can, with truth, assure you, gentlemen, that in this quarter we are engaged, to a man, in your defence, and in defence of the common cause. We are

ready to communicate of our substance largely, as your necessities require ; and, with our estates, to give our lives and mingle our blood with yours, in the common sacrifice to liberty. And since we have no asylum on earth, to which we may fly; before we will submit to wear the chains of slavery, a profligate and arbitrary ministry are preparing for us, we are determined upon an emigration through the gate of death, in hope of inheriting the fair land of promise, and participating with our forefathers in the glorious liberty of the sons of God.

That Heaven may support you, under your distressing circumstances, and send you a speedy and happy deliverance from your present troubles, is the earnest prayer of, Gentlemen, your cordial friends and very humble servants,

JOHN ADAMS, }
JOHN SULLIVAN, } *Committee.*



LETTER FROM SOUTH KINGSTON.

South Kingston, 22d Nov., 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

This Town, being impressed with a sense of the calamities that must attend their distressed brethren in your Town, and also of the necessity and obligation that we are under to contribute towards your relief, and to hold fast the band of union so immediately necessary to support us against any infringement upon our liberties, have contributed towards your relief, and have remitted the same in sheep, which you will receive by the bearers, Mr. Nath'l Hawkins and Mr. Henry Reynolds. We have to recommend to you a continuance in that philosophic disposition towards your adversaries, so necessary to support yourselves amidst the hand of oppression, hoping, in a short time, your grievances will be redressed, and this once happy land may again enjoy perfect liberty.

We are, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,

B. PECKHAM, }
CARDER HAZARD, } *Committee.*
WM. POTTER, }

To the Committee of Correspondence in Boston.

135 sheep.

REPLY TO SOUTH KINGSTON.

Boston, 29th Nov., 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

When we reflect on the sympathy and generosity of our brethren in the several Colonies, in supplying the wants of this distressed Town, under the cruel yoke of tyranny, our hearts glow with love to them, and we are thereby strengthened and encouraged to bear our burthens. And as Providence has called us to stand in the front, we hope shall stand firm, and never desert the glorious cause of our country, nor give up the least right which North America, as men, as Christians, and good subjects ought to enjoy. And we are happy to find this to be the voice of the several Colonies through the continent; and we trust in that God, who will never fail them that confide in him, that shortly all our rights and privileges will be restored and confirmed to us.

You will be pleased to return our hearty thanks to our brethren of South Kingston, for their very generous donation of one hundred and [thirty]-five sheep, which we have received from them by Mr. Nath'l Hawkins and Mr. Henry Reynolds, and we trust they will be rewarded a thousand fold; and may the blessings of them who are ready to perish rest on them.

I am, with great regard, in behalf of the Committee for this Town, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

BENJ. AUSTIN, *per order.*

*To Messrs. Benj. Peckham, Carder Hazard, and Wm. Potter,
Committee for the Town South Kingston.*



LETTER FROM REHOBOTH.

Rehoboth, Nov. 24th, 1774.

SIR,

Being in some measure sensible of the difficulty and importance of your undertaking, I wish you all that virtue and prudence necessary to the unexceptionable discharge

of a work of so good and salutary a nature as that in which you and your brethren, the Committee of Donations, are at present engaged, viz., in taking care of your afflicted fellow-citizens, suffering by virtue of the Boston Port Bill. I presume, as I could wish, that the paternal care of the Committee, and the liberalities of your distant brethren, will unremittedly continue, till our grievances are redressed. And I hope the time is not far distant, when you, and all North America, will reap the happy and lasting effects of your and their making so manly and virtuous a stand for those rights and privileges which God, nature and compact have given us. The Letter from the Committee, in consequence of the donation, was directed to the Selectmen of Rehoboth, in the Colony of Rhode Island, which was a mistake, Rehoboth being in the Massachusetts Bay.

Your very good friend and servant,

SHUBAEL PECK, { One of the Select-
men of Rehoboth.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.¹

Philadelphia, Nov. 25th, 1774.

SIR,

By an order of Committee of the City and County of Philadelphia, Messrs. John Nixon, George Clymer and

¹ In Pennsylvania, on the 20th of May, 1774, a meeting of "between two and three hundred of the respectable inhabitants" of Philadelphia, was held, who appointed a Committee of Correspondence, and passed the following vote of instructions: "That the Committee be instructed to write to the people of Boston, that we truly feel for their unhappy situation; that we consider them suffering in the general cause; that we recommend to them firmness, prudence and moderation; and that we shall continue to evince our firm adherence to the cause of American liberty." John Dickenson, Thomas Mifflin, Joseph Reed, George Clymer and Charles Thompson were members of this Committee. Their letter dated May 21, was intrusted to Paul Revere, who had been sent from Boston to communicate with the patriots of Pennsylvania and other Colonies. The Essex Gazette of May 31, contains an article relative to this mission, dated Boston, May 30, from which the following is an extract: "On Saturday last, Mr. Paul Revere returned from Philadelphia, having been sent express to the Southern Colonies, with intelligence of the late rash, impolitic and vindictive measures of the British Parliament, who, by the execrable Port Bill, have held out to us a most incontestable argument why we ought to submit to their jurisdiction; and what rich blessings we may secure to ourselves and posterity, by an acquiescence in their lenity, wisdom, and justice. Nothing can exceed the indignation with which our brethren in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and Philadelphia

myself, were directed to purchase and forward to your address, for the Town of Boston, five tons of rod iron, four hundred barrels of flour and two hundred barrels of ship stuff, under restrictions agreeable to the contents of a letter

have received this proof of ministerial madness. They universally declare their resolution to stand by us to the last extremity."

In Philadelphia, on the 1st of June, business generally was suspended. A letter dated June 2, says: "Yesterday we had a pause in the business of the city, and a solemn pause it indeed was. If we except the Friends, I believe nine-tenths of the citizens shut up their houses. The bells were rang, muffled, all the day, and the ships in the port had their colors half hoisted." George Clymer, in a letter to Josiah Quincy, (Quincy's life of Quincy, p. 167,) dated Philadelphia, June 13, says: "The general subscription to be opened here, which I hope will be followed in other places, will show that your neighbors have not absolutely forsaken you in your day of distress."

The Boston Gazette of July 4, contains the resolutions passed "at a very large and respectable meeting of the freeholders and freemen of the City and County of Philadelphia, on Saturday, June 18, 1774." The fifth resolution is: "That the Committee be instructed immediately to set on foot a subscription for the relief of such poor inhabitants of the Town of Boston, as may be deprived of the means of subsistence by the operation of the Act of Parliament, commonly styled the Boston Port Bill; the money arising from such subscription to be laid out as the Committee shall think will best answer the ends proposed." On the 21st of June, at a meeting held at Easton, Northampton County, it was resolved to raise contributions for the relief of the suffering inhabitants of Boston; "and that it is the duty of every inhabitant of this County to contribute, according to his circumstances, to relieve their suffering brethren."

The Boston Gazette of June 20, says: "We hear that the patriotic inhabitants of Philadelphia, have generously voted to give the poor of this Town, one thousand five hundred barrels of flour, five hundred of which it is said may be soon expected."

On the 15th of July, the several Counties of Pennsylvania met in Convention at Philadelphia, when it was unanimously, "*Voted*, That we consider our brethren at Boston as suffering in the common cause of these Colonies." And "that it is the duty of every member of this Committee, [i. e. Convention,] to promote, as much as he can, the subscriptions set on foot in the several Counties of this Province, for the relief of the distressed inhabitants of Boston."

The Boston Gazette of August 29, has the following: "Letters from Philadelphia say, that City only has raised four thousand pounds, that currency, for the support of Boston, and that every other Town in Pennsylvania government are doing in proportion."

On the 15th of December, the "Committee" for Bucks County, "*Voted*, That we hold it as our bounden duty, both as Christians and as countrymen, to contribute towards the relief and support of the poor inhabitants of the Town of Boston, now suffering in the general cause of all the Colonies; and we do hereby recommend the raising a sum of money for that purpose, to every inhabitant or taxable in this County, as soon as possible."

On the 14th of February, 1775, at a meeting of a Convention of York County, the proceedings of the late Provincial Convention were approved; and it was "*Resolved*, That the township Committee-men in this County ought, as soon as possible, to collect the flour and grain subscribed for the poor of Boston, and convert the same into cash; and that they immediately pay such cash and all other moneys subscribed into the hands of Messrs. John Donalson and George Erwin, who, with the direction of any ten of the Committee, are to remit the same in bills of exchange to the Committee of Boston, for the poor of that place."—En.

from the Committee of Correspondence of Boston, received 11th July, 1774. You have, agreeable to the above order, an invoice and bill lading inclosed, for two hundred and fifty-six barrels of flour, and one hundred and five barrels of stuff, on board the sloop Dolphin, Capt. Lemuel Church, which is all we could get on board, and this vessel is the first we could obtain to take the goods since the above order. By Capt. Allen, in the sloop America, we have shipped about one hundred and fifty barrels of flour, which is all he could take, and have also engaged room in a Cape Cod schooner for the remainder of the order for flour, and stuff. The rod iron is not to be had, the late dry spell of weather having prevented any being made; but the proprietor of the works has very obligingly promised the first that shall be made, and we hope it will be in time for the Cape Cod vessel. This is in part of the subscriptions procured in the City of Philadelphia, which amounts at present to about two thousand pounds. The rest, when collected, will be forwarded as the Committee shall direct, as also what shall be sent in from the country, from whence has been received the value of near one hundred and thirty barrels, being the donation of different Townships in one of our back Counties. We doubt not the other Counties will contribute considerably, when the new Committees shall be chosen. In mean while, tenderly feeling for the inexpressibly distressed situation of your Town, and wishing an happy and speedy issue from the exertions of tyranny, to the full enjoyment of peace, liberty and security, I have the pleasure to subscribe myself, with much regard,

Sir, your very humble servant,

JONA. B. SMITH.

To William Phillips, Esq., Merchant, Boston.



LETTER FROM CANTERBURY.

SIRS,

Connecticut, Canterbury, Nov. 27th, 1774.

Being affected with a sense of the righteousness of the cause that the people of Boston are suffering under, as

it concerns all the people of America to be roused to support them, that they may not faint under their distresses, it took hold on my covetous heart, and made me willing to contribute my little mite, which I have sent by Mr. Green, of Mendam, a beef cow for the distressed, and ordered him to deliver it to the Committee for that purpose ; and may the Lord deliver the people of America out of the hands of a wicked and despotic power, who are exerting all the subtilty and malice of hell to enslave us. O may Almighty God still rouse and further unite the people of America, as one man, to a sense of their liberties, and never give them up, as long as sun, moon and stars shall endure ; and never submit to be slaves, but be willing to sacrifice life and all things to the defence and preservation of them ; which is the earnest desire of

Your humble servant,

AARON CLEAVELAND.

To the Committee of Boston, who take Donations.



LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN.

Charlestown, Nov. 27th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We have received your favor of 25th instant, and much approve of your making insurance on any interest that may be heard of as coming to us as donations for the relief of the sufferers, &c. As your proportion is so much larger than ours, we leave it with you to act for the whole, and engage to pay our proportionable part of the premium. Wishing a speedy deliverance from the distresses we jointly labor under,

We are, Gentlemen, with great respect, your sincere friends, and very humble servants,

ISAAC FOSTER, { By order of the
Committee.

To the Committee of Ways and Means in Boston.

LETTER FROM NEW MARKET.

New Hampshire, New Market, Nov. 28th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of the inhabitants of New Market, by their desire, crave leave to express the deepest concern at the many unconstitutional acts passed by the English Parliament to enslave a free and loyal people, and the alarming measures pursued to enforce them. It gives us the greatest uneasiness that the inhabitants of your Province, and more especially of Boston, most eminently distinguished for their vigilance, fortitude and public spirit in explaining and defending our liberties and privileges, are the unhappy subjects of several of these acts, and of the abuse of a British Minister. We observe his policy to change our constitution and religion, in introducing those acts upon only a small part of the people, at a time, and under very many circumstances, which seem to insure success. And this evinces to us the interesting ties of duty and honor the community and each of its members are under, mutually to support, relieve and defend each other.

Be pleased, gentlemen, to permit us to sympathize with you under oppression and distress, and to present you the donation of New Market for the relief of the poor of Boston, in assurance of equal approbation of Heaven, and in your sight with those who of their abundance have given much.

To sustain, repair and beautify our free constitution, was a charge intrusted with men who basely betrayed it. This charge is revested in the people who reposed it in them; and should the times require it, we will unitedly risk our fortunes and lives in the protection of the liberty of Britons. "A duty which we owe to ourselves, who enjoy it; to our ancestors, who transmitted it down; and to our posterity, who will claim at our hands this the best birthright, and noblest inheritance of mankind."

Your obedient servants,

JEREMIAH FOLSOM, } *Committee of*
 SAMUEL GILMAN, } *New Market.*

To the Committee for receiving Donations for the Poor of Boston.

REPLY TO NEW MARKET.

*Boston, Dec. 1st, 1774.*¹

GENTLEMEN,

By the hands of Mr. Samuel Gilman, and Samuel Wiggins, the Committee of Donations have received your very affectionate letter, and are greatly obliged to the inhabitants of the Town of New Market, for the brotherly love and sympathy discovered therein for the distressed inhabitants of this metropolis, occasioned by the cruel and unjust Boston Port Bill; as also your kind and generous present of seven fat cattle, for the relief of the poor among us; and, in behalf of the Town, return our thankful acknowledgments to our brethren, the generous and patriotic inhabitants aforesaid, who discover such a readiness, not only to sympathize but also to share with us in our troubles. The cause is common, and we greatly rejoice to find that our friends and brethren in this and the other Provinces on this continent, consider it as such. In testimony hereof, we are frequently receiving their generous donations, which afford us great relief under the difficulties we are conflicting with. But we have not time to enlarge. We send the inclosed that you may see the conduct of the

¹ The following preamble and resolve appear in the Journals of December :

“ In Provincial Congress, Cambridge, Dec. 1, 1774 :

“ Whereas, by the vigorous operation of the Boston Port Bill, the metropolis of this Province and the neighboring Town of Charlestown, have been brought into a most distressful state, many of the inhabitants being deprived of the means of their subsistence, and reduced to the cruel alternative of quitting their habitations, or perishing in them by famine, if they had not been supported by the free and generous contributions of our sister Colonies, even from the remotest parts of this continent,—

“ Resolved, That the grateful acknowledgments of this Congress be returned to the several Colonies, for having so deeply interested themselves in behalf of said Towns under their present sufferings in the common cause; and that the Congress consider their donations, not only as unexampled acts of benevolence to this Province in general, which has also greatly suffered, and of charity to those Towns in particular, but as convincing proofs of the firm attachment of all the Colonies to the glorious cause of liberty, and of their fixed determination to support them in the noble stand they are now making for the liberties of themselves and all America.

Signed by order of the Provincial Congress,

[ED.]

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

Committee in disposing of the donations of our friends, which we hope will be satisfactory.

We are, with great respect, Gentlemen, your much obliged friends and humble servants,

JOHN SOLEY, { Per order the Commit-
tee of Donations.

*To Messrs. Jeremiah Folsom, and Samuel Gilman,
Committee of Correspondence, New Market.*



LETTER FROM PROVIDENCE.

Providence, Nov. 28th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The Town of Providence, at a late meeting, voted that the sum of one hundred and twenty-five pounds, lawful money, should be raised and remitted to the Committee for receiving Donations in the Town of Boston, to be applied as they should see fit, towards the support of the industrious poor of the said Towns of Boston and Charlestown. You will receive this as a testimony of the approbation that the Town of Providence mean to manifest to the firm opposition that the inhabitants of the Town of Boston have and are still making, to the tyrannical impositions of a corrupt ministry. By the bearer, Simon Smith, we send you one hundred thirty-six sheep, to be applied as you may think best for answering the above intention. We should not at this time have sent any part of our supplies in sheep, but these being a parcel that was brought into this Town, to be exported to the West Indies, which had been purchased two months ago, and the people thinking that it was against the resolves of the Congress, the Committee have thought best to forward them to you. The balance of the donation will be remitted in cash, as soon as collected.

I am, in behalf of the Committee for the Town of Providence, your friend, &c.

JAMES ANGELL.

To the Committee for receiving Donations in Boston.

REPLY TO PROVIDENCE.

Boston, Nov. 30th, 1774.

SIR,

Your very kind letter of the 28th instant, we have received, with one hundred and thirty-five sheep, by the bearer, Mr. Simeon Smith, and thank you for the intelligence given us, that our worthy brethren of Providence have generously voted this Town and Charlestown, one hundred and twenty-five pounds, lawful money, towards the support of their industrious poor. We receive these sheep as part of the said donation, and doubt not of receiving the remainder as soon as it can be collected. The kindness and generosity of brethren of Providence, and the several Colonies, to this distressed Town, fill our hearts with love and gratitude. They may depend upon our steady adherence to the common cause, and that we shall not give up any of the rights of North America, but shall ever oppose the tyrannical impositions of a corrupt ministry. You will please to tender our thanks to the Committee of the Town of Providence, and through them to the whole Town.

I am, in behalf of the Committee of Donations for this Town, Sir, your most humble servant,

BENJ. AUSTIN, *per order.*

To Mr. James Angell, in Providence.



LETTERS FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, Nov. 28th, 1774.

SIR,

By order of the late Committee for City and County of Philadelphia, we were directed to ship to your address, for the employment or relief of the inhabitants of the Town of Boston, four hundred barrels of flour, two hundred barrels

of ship stuff, and five tons of rod iron. We have accordingly shipped on board Sloop Dolphin, Lemuel Church, master, which sailed two days ago, two hundred and fifty-six barrels of flour, and one hundred and five barrels ship stuff, and on board the sloop America, Perkins Allen, master, (to sail to-morrow,) have shipped one hundred and fifty barrels flour; these are the first vessels we could procure to take any of the goods, and the above is the whole of what we could get on board them. The rod iron is not to be had, owing to the very dry weather we have had, and the works being out of repair. By the first opportunity which shall offer, the remainder of subscriptions will be forwarded.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants,

JOHN NIXON.

JONA. B. SMITH.

GEO. CLYMER.

To William Phillips, Esq., Merchant, Boston.

Philadelphia, Nov. 28th, 1774.

SIR,

On the other side you have invoice, and inclosed is bill lading for one hundred and fifty barrels flour shipped by the late Committee for the City and County of Philadelphia to your address. This is part of the subscriptions made in the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, for the relief of the Town of Boston, and is all we could procure room for on board this vessel. The flour is with us called condemned, but in the opinion of our officer, (who kindly connived at our shipping it on this occasion,) and others, you will find none but sound and healthy, and such as will make good bread, a very great proportion as such is always used by our bakers.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your very humble servant,

JONATHAN B. SMITH.

To William Phillips, Esq., Merchant in Boston.

REPLY TO PHILADELPHIA.

Boston, January 6th, 1775.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee of the Town of Boston, appointed to receive and distribute the donations that are made for the relief of the poor of this Town, to acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 28th November, and to return their unfeigned thanks to the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia for the generous donations they have made and transmitted by Captains Church and Allen, consisting of four hundred and six barrels flour, and one hundred barrels ship stuff, which, you may rely upon it, will be applied by the Committee to the benevolent purpose for which you designed it. Our situation is truly distressing. Families that have lived in the greatest affluence, are now reduced to the most disagreeable circumstances ; but, through God's goodness, the hearts of our brethren have been opened for our relief. They have enabled us to bear up under oppression, to the astonishment of our enemies, and we trust we shall be enabled still to remain firm, and never to desert the glorious cause of our country.

I remain, with great truth, your friend and humble servant,

THOM'S CUSHING.

To Mr. Jonathan B. Smith, Merchant, Philadelphia.



LETTER FROM NEWPORT.

Newport, Nov. 30th, 1774.

To the Committee of Ways and Means for the Town of Boston :

GENTLEMEN,

Having been appointed by this Town to take in subscriptions for the support of the distressed inhabitants of the Town of Boston, we have used our best endeavors to

answer the end of our appointment, and have got subscribed to the amount of near one thousand dollars, five hundred and four and a quarter of which we have collected, which you will herewith receive by Mr. Peter Mumford, and will please to give him a receipt for the same, as received of us, in part of this Town's subscription. The remainder we shall collect and remit as soon as possible.

We sincerely condole the distresses of your Town and Province, and at the same time highly applaud your firmness and prudence. We look on your troubles as our own, and shall not fail to exert ourselves for your future support, in case you are not soon relieved; being fully convinced that at all events you must stand out against the present arbitrary and cruel proceedings, or all North America must inevitably fall a sacrifice to the most oppressive and brutal tyranny that ever disgraced the most savage nation upon the face of the earth.

We are, Gentlemen, your sincere friends and very humble servants,

JOHN TANNER.
JOS. CLARKE.
SIMON NEWTON.
JOHN READ.
SOLOMON SOUTHWICK.
GEORGE GIBBS.
JOSEPH ANTHONY.
NATH. COGGESWELL.
JOHN G. WANTON.
JACOB ROD RIVERA.
PELEG BARKER.
JOSIAS LYNDON.
ROBT. STEVENS, JUN.

REPLY TO NEWPORT.

Boston, Dec. 5th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Your esteem[ed] favor of the 30th ultimo, per Mr. Mumford, we duly received, with the five hundred and four and a quarter dollars, being part, as you mention, of the

generous donation of our worthy friends and brethren of the Town of Newport, for the benefit of the poor of this Town, distressed by the late cruel Acts of Parliament. The kindness and generosity that is raised in the breast of our friends, not only in your Town and Colony, but in all the neighboring governments, surely can be imputed to none but the kind hand of Providence. It affords us no small satisfaction, under our distressed circumstances, to find that our friends truly sympathize with us, and make our troubles their own, which they prove not only to be in word but in deed.

We return our grateful acknowledgments to the Town, and are, with much esteem, Gentlemen, your obliged friend and humble servant,

JONA. MASON, { In behalf of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Messrs. John Turner, Joseph Clarke, and others, Committee for the Town of Newport, to receive Donations for the Poor of Boston.



REPLY TO NORTH YARMOUTH.

Boston, Dec. 6th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

This day Mr. Stephen Hall, one of the wharfingers of this Town, sent to the Treasurer of the Committee of Donations, a receipt of the following tenor, viz.

Boston, December 5th, 1774.

Landed on my wharf, by David Loring, from North Yarmouth, thirty-five cords of wood, which I promise to be accountable to the Committee of Donations for.

35 cords.

STEPHEN HALL.

The Committee, therefore, in behalf of the Town, take this opportunity, by Capt. Loring, with gratitude to acknowledge the kindness of our worthy friends and brethren of North Yarmouth, in their seasonable and generous donation of the thirty-five cords wood, above mentioned. We are particularly obliged to you, gentlemen, as also to Capt. Loring, for your care and trouble in transmitting said

donation to us. We shall endeavor to comply with the benevolent intent of the donors, in the distribution of their charity. And, that they may be more fully apprised of the rules of our conduct in general, we have taken the liberty to inclose a printed account thereof, which we hope will meet with their approbation.

The Christian sympathy and liberality of our friends, greatly refresh our spirits, and serve to support us under our pressing and increasing difficulties; but, by the favor and blessing of God, we trust we shall be enabled still to persevere until the happy time shall arrive, when "every man shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make him afraid."

We wish North Yarmouth temporal and spiritual prosperity, and are, Gentlemen, your much obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Messrs. John Southward, and William Cutter, North Yarmouth.



LETTER FROM NORFOLK.

Norfolk, Virginia, Dec. 6th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We, the Committee appointed by the inhabitants of the County and Borough of Norfolk, (and Town of Portsmouth,) for transmitting their donations for the relief of the indigent poor in your Town, inclose you the bill of lading accordingly, the freight being paid here. It is with pleasure we can inform you of the cheerful accession of all the trading interest of this Colony to the association of the Continental Congress, and they have all subscribed it as a proof of their approbation. We wish you perseverance, moderation, firmness and success in this grand contest, which we view as our own in every respect. Contributions for your relief are raising throughout this Dominion, and will, we hope, be looked upon as a small proof,

how much the good people of this Colony are attached to the cause of Boston and American liberty.

We are, with respect, Gentlemen, your affectionate brethren,

EDW'D ARCHER.
JOHN GOODRICH, JUN.
ALEXAND'R MOSELY.
JOHN BOUSH.
THOMAS MATHEWS.

To the Committee for receiving Donations for the Poor of Boston.

Per Capt. Rysam.

REPLY TO NORFOLK.

Boston, Feb. 1, 1775.

Mr. Edward Archer and others, a Committee for the County and Borough of Norfolk, and Town of Portsmouth, in Virginia.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee appointed to receive and distribute the donations made for the relief and employment of the sufferers by the Port Bill, have received your letter of the 6th December last, inclosing a bill of lading for seven hundred and fifteen bushels corn, thirty-three barrels pork, fifty-eight barrels bread, and ten barrels flour. We are sorry to inform you that the vessel was cast away, but being timely advised of the disaster by Capt. Rysam, we have, though not without considerable expense, the good fortune of saving the most part of the cargo.

The County and Borough of Norfolk, and Town of Portsmouth, who made this charitable donation for the sufferers above mentioned, have the due acknowledgments of this Committee, and their hearty thanks, with assurance that it shall be applied agreeable to the benevolent design. The cheerful accession of the gentlemen of Virginia to the measures proposed by the late Continental Congress, is an instance of that zeal for, and attachment to the cause of America, in which that Colony has ever distinguished herself.

This Town is suffering the severest strokes of ministerial

vengeance, for their adherence to the same virtuous cause ; and while the sister Colonies are testifying their approbation of its conduct, and so liberally contributing for its support, we trust the inhabitants will continue to bear their suffering with a manly fortitude, and preserve a superiority over their insulting enemies.

I am, in the name of the Committee, Gentlemen, your sincere friend and fellow-countryman,

SAM'L ADAMS.



LETTERS FROM NEW YORK.¹

New York, Dec. 7th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

As a token that we have not forgot the poor of your Town, we send you by the Boston packet, Capt. Barnard,

¹ The manner in which the intelligence of the passage of the Port Bill was received in New York, is stated in a letter dated New York, May 14, addressed to the Boston Committee of Correspondence, and printed in the Boston Gazette of May 23. The following is an extract from this letter: "Last Thursday, Capt. Couper arrived from London, in twenty-seven days. By him we have received the shocking and detestable Act of Parliament, that shuts up your port the first of June. We want language to express our abhorrence of this additional act of tyranny to America ; we clearly see that she is to be attacked and enslaved by distressing and subduing you."

A "very general meeting of the inhabitants" assembled on the 16th of May, 1774, at "the Exchange," and appointed a Committee of Fifty to correspond with "sister Colonies." John Jay was a member. This Committee sent to Boston a letter dated May 24, in which they say: "As a sister Colony, suffering in defence of the rights of America, we consider your injuries as a common cause, to the redress of which it is equally our duty and our interest to contribute." They also made the following important recommendation: "We conclude that a Congress of Deputies from the Colonies in general, is of the utmost moment ; that it ought to be assembled without delay, and some unanimous resolution formed, in this fatal emergency, not only respecting your deplorable circumstances, but for the security of our common rights."

A letter dated New York, June 26, 1774, says: "I am well informed that subscriptions are rapidly going on in Philadelphia, and some of the other Southern Colonies, for the relief of the suffering poor in your Town ; and a motion will be made to morrow evening, at our Grand Committee, for the same laudable purpose ; which I am well assured will be carried, and a subscription immediately opened."

At a meeting of the Committee of Correspondence, July 19, 1774, on motion of Mr. Jay, ordered, "That a Committee be appointed to take the distresses of the poor of the Town of Boston, and ways and means for their relief, into consideration, and make their Report, with all convenient speed." On the 7th of August, the General Committee appointed a Committee to procure proper persons "to go round in the different wards in this city, with a subscription," for the relief of the poor of Boston. On the 9th of August, the General Committee, in

one hundred and eighty barrels flour, nine barrels pork, and twelve firkins butter, as a donation in part from the inhabitants of this city to the poor of your Town, who

a letter addressed to the Boston Committee of Correspondence, say: "The distresses of the poor of your Town, and ways and means for their relief, have engaged the earnest attention of our Committee; and for this necessary and benevolent purpose, we have agreed that a subscription shall be set on foot throughout the Colony, which we do not doubt will meet the wished for success."

On the 20th August, the inhabitants of Westchester, New York, "*Resolved*, That we esteem it our duty, and think it incumbent on all the Colonies in America, to contribute towards the relief of the poor and distressed people of Boston; and that a person of this Borough be appointed to collect such charitable donations, within the same, as may be offered for their support."

The Boston Gazette of September 5, has the following: "New York, August 25. We hear that last Monday morning, as two of the gentlemen appointed by the Committee to collect for our suffering brethren in Boston, set out upon that business. The first gentleman they called upon was Mr. D——e, who generously presented them with ten pounds in cash, and the best pipe of brandy in his distillery, valued at twenty-eight pounds; observing at the same time, that the generosity of the Virginians and Carolinians, &c., was great and honorable with respect to food, but he thought such glorious sufferers for the common good, ought to drink as well as eat."

On the 27th of August, the inhabitants of Palatine district, Tryon County, "*Resolved*, That we will unite and join with the different districts of this County, in giving whatever relief it is in our power to the poor distressed inhabitants of Boston, and that we will join and unite, with our brethren of the rest of this Colony, in anything tending to the support and defence of our rights and liberties."

At a meeting of "the Committees of Correspondence" for the County of Suffolk, on the 15th of November, it was "*Voted*, That we do recommend it to the several Towns in this County, to set forward a subscription for the employment and relief of the distressed poor in the Town of Boston, to be collected in such manner as the Committees of each Town shall judge proper; to be in readiness to be forwarded early next spring." "*Voted*, That Mr. John Foster have the care of procuring a vessel to call at the several harbors in this County, to receive and carry the above donations to Boston, for the purpose aforesaid."

On the 6th of December, at a town meeting in Jamaica, it was "*Resolved*, That their "brethren" of Boston, "as sufferers in the common cause, are entitled to the encouragement, compassion, and charitable assistance of all the friends of liberty and foes of oppression, both in England and America."

The Essex Gazette of December 13, has the following: "The Town of East Hampton, on Long Island, have laid a tax upon the Town, sufficient to raise one hundred pounds, New York currency, for the support of the industrious poor of Boston. A subscription is also set on foot in every parish in the County of Suffolk, on Long Island, to raise donations for the same laudable purpose; a Committee appointed in each parish to receive the same; and instructions given to collect grain, flax, &c., to send to Boston in March next."

The Essex Gazette of February 7, 1775, has the following: "The County of Albany, in New York, in which are seventeen districts, have at a general meeting, adopted the Resolves of the Continental Congress, and kindly agreed to make collections for our sufferers by the Port Bill—the measure having been as kindly recommended to them by the Members of New York, who were at the late Congress. A fresh instance of the happy union and spirit that prevails in the Colonies, which must finally prove superior to the chicanery of a few ignorant and bribed representatives."—*Ed.*

suffer by the Port Bill ; also twenty-one barrels wheat and rye, sent as a present from the inhabitants of Marble Town, in Ulster County ; the whole amounting to four hundred and eight pounds, nineteen shillings, nine and a half pence, as per annexed invoice ; all which we wish safe to hand, and that it may prove a seasonable supply, notwithstanding it comes at the eleventh hour. In a few days we expect to get a vessel, when we shall send you as much more, and some rod iron. In the mean time we remain, with respect,

Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

G. DUYCKINCK.

GERARD WM. BEEKMAN.

To Messrs. John Row, Sam'l Adams and others, appointed to receive the Donations, and for employing the poor sufferers by the Port Bill in Boston.

Per Capt. Barnard.

New York, Dec. 17th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Our last to you was the 7th instant, per Capt. Barnard, by whom we sent you flour, &c., to the amount of four hundred and eight pounds, nineteen shillings, nine and a half pence, as a donation from this City to the poor of your Town. This serves to inclose you invoice and bill of lading for flour, &c., shipped per the sloop Joseph, Capt. Linsey, amounting, with charges, to six hundred and fifty-three pounds, nine shillings, nine pence, as a further donation from the inhabitants of this City to the poor of yours. We have between two and three hundred pounds more subscribed, but it is not collected ; when it is, we shall send you a further supply, per first opportunity that offers.

In the mean time we remain, with respect, Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

G. DUYCKINCK.

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

To John Row, Esq., and others, the Committee for Donations.

REPLY TO NEW YORK.

Boston, Jan. 9th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee appointed by the inhabitants of this Town, to receive and distribute the donations of our friends for the benefit of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, acknowledge your several favors of the 7th and 17th of December last, inclosing invoices of flour, &c., amounting, with charges, to one thousand and sixty-two pounds, 9/6, which, agreeable to your kind wishes, are come safe to hand. I am directed by the Committee to request that you would assure our benefactors, the citizens of New York, of their warmest gratitude for the very seasonable relief they have afforded to their afflicted brethren in this place, by such generous donations, in this most difficult time of the year. While we acknowledge the superintendency of divine Providence, we feel our obligations to the sister Colonies. By their liberality, they have greatly chagrined the common enemies of America, who flattered themselves with hopes that before this day they should starve us into a compliance with the insolent demands of despotic power. But the people, relieved by your charitable contributions, bear the indignity with becoming patience and fortitude. They are not insensible of the injuries done them as men, as well as free Americans; but they restrain their just resentment from a due regard to the common cause.

The Committee beg the favor of you, gentlemen, to return their thanks to our worthy brethren of Marble Town, for the valuable donation received from them.

I am, with due acknowledgments for the care you have taken, in the name of the Committee, Gentlemen, your obliged friend and servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.

To Mr. Peter T. Curtenius, at New York.

LETTER TO COL. ORNE.

Boston, December 7th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Our worthy brethren of Alexandria, in Virginia, have kindly shipped on board of Capt. Woodbridge, now in your

harbor, about two hundred barrels of flour, (we cannot ascertain the exact quantity,) for the benefit of the poor of this Town, who are sufferers by the Port Bill.

We beg the favor of you, gentlemen, to receive the flour of Capt. Woodbridge, and ship it to us as soon as you conveniently can, which we doubt not you will do on the best terms; and please to draw on us for what expense you may have been at. We ask pardon for repeatedly giving you so much trouble, but from your well known generous and patriotic disposition, we flatter ourselves you will readily forgive us. We are, with great respect, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

DAN. WALDO, } For the Committee.

To Col. Azor Orne, and others, Committee of Correspondence, Marblehead.

REPLY OF COL. ORNE.

Marblehead, Dec. 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with your desire by your letter of the 7th inst., we have received and shipped on board Capt. Martin, one hundred fifty-seven barrels flour, which he will deliver to your order. Capt. Woodbury told us the donation he brought consisted of no more. We have made no agreement with Martin for the freight, but refer him to you, concluding, as he is a son of liberty, he will not be unreasonable. We congratulate you on seeing your distant friends so mindful of your distresses as to endeavor to alleviate them by their charitable donations, and are, with esteem,

Gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen,

J. ORNE, } By order of the Committee of Correspondence.

To the Committee of Donations, at Boston.



LETTER FROM THE UNION FIRE CLUB.

Salem, December 8th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

At a time when cruelty and oppression ride triumphant over right and justice, and is aiming the fatal arrows

of death at the last standing pillar of civil and religious liberty, that heart that glows not with a sympathetic benevolence toward the intended victim ; that hand which refuses the assistance it has the power to lend, must be insensible to those exquisite feelings which happify a generous bosom, must be dead to all the tender ties of humanity. The distressed situation to which our brethren in Boston are reduced, while with a noble resolution and an unexampled fortitude they are opposing the most arbitrary, tyrannical and oppressive measures of an infatuated ministry, exhibits the most cogent inducement to all who know the worth of Heaven's richest gift, to appear and show themselves friends to the righteous cause for which America contends, for which our brethren suffer.

From a full conviction of the weight of these considerations, and in testimony of the high sense we have of our obligation to that valuable part of the community, our brethren in Boston, who have so generously signalized their unabated steadiness and fidelity to the most important cause that ever moved a people, the Union Fire Club in this Town, at their last quarterly meeting, on Thursday evening, December 8, 1774, when nineteen members were present, moved with an ardent cheerfulness, agreed to a subscription for the assistance of our distressed brethren in that Town. The sum of forty pounds, which was subscribed, we herewith send you, by our brother, Sam'l King. Were the sum equal to our wishes, it would be adequate to your merit ; but as our members consist chiefly of men in a mechanical department, who are in but a middling state of life, we can only by this little effort discover our disposition and readiness to exert the utmost of our abilities for the assistance and relief of those to whom we owe so much. Suffer us, gentlemen, upon this occasion, to return you our most unfeigned thanks for those important services you have rendered the Province and continent, in which, under the smiles of Heaven, we have so long enjoyed the blessings of a happy constitution, now invaded and broken in upon by a cruel exertion of the most unrighteous power. On your continued firmness, prudence and wisdom, we place much dependence ; on which, with the united assistance of America, we ground our hopes of a restoration of justice and

peace. That the great Overruler of all things may take you, with this devoted country, into his gracious protection, and grant those happy fruits may be the consequence of that ever memorable unanimity which subsists in America, is the earnest prayer of,

Gentlemen, your most assured friends and sympathizing brethren,

JOSEPH SPRAGUE.

JOSEPH HILLER.

To the Committee for receiving Donations for the poor inhabitants of Boston.

REPLY TO THE UNION CLUB.

Boston, 16th December, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

I am directed by the Committee of the Town of Boston, appointed to receive and distribute the donations that are made for the relief and employment of such as are, or may become sufferers by means of the Boston Port Bill, to return their sincere thanks to the members of the Union Club, in the Town of Salem, for the generous contribution they made, and transmitted by their worthy brother, Mr. Samuel King. It is an unspeakable consolation to the inhabitants of this devoted Town, that amidst the distress designed to have been brought upon them by an inhuman, as well as arbitrary Ministers, there are many whose hearts and hands are open for their relief. You, gentlemen, are among the happy number of those, of whom it is said, the blessing of him that is ready to perish hath come upon us, and through your liberality the widow's heart to sing for joy.

Our friends have enabled us to bear up under oppression, to the astonishment of our enemies. May Heaven reward our kind benefactors ten-fold ; and grant to us wisdom and fortitude, that during this hard conflict we may behave as becomes those who are called to struggle in so glorious a cause ; and, by our patience and perseverance, at length frustrate the designs of our country's inveterate foes. You may rely upon it that your donation will be applied

by the Committee to the benevolent purpose for which you intended it.

Be assured that I am, in truth and sincerity, your friend and humble servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.

To the Union Club at Salem.



REPLY TO LONDONDERRY.

Boston, Dec. 8th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The kindness and sympathy manifested to this truly distressed Town, by our worthy brethren in the two Parishes of Londonderry, in a generous donation received this day by the hands of Capt. Robert Moore and Ensign James McGregor, to the amount of forty-five pounds, eleven shillings and 10*d.*, demands our sincere gratitude. It animates us to persevere, (though under the iron rod of oppression,) and to stand firm for the preservation of our rights; those rights which God and nature has given us, and which it is our duty to maintain and defend at the risk of life and all that we hold dear. There is nothing but our firmness that can protect us against the arbitrary measures adopted by the present administration; and with the kind assistance of our brethren in this and the other Colonies, we trust that we shall be able to baffle their iniquitous plan, and hope that Being who superintends the universe, who often takes the wise in their own craftiness and renders their schemes abortive, may interpose in our behalf, and bring great good out of the evil intended us by our inveterate foes. The views of administration are too obvious to need any comment; therefore it must depend upon our virtue to save ourselves, by withholding all communication with our *parent state*, till our grievances are redressed.

We need not inform you of the distress the inhabitants of this once flourishing Town are reduced to; there are thousands that have spent and are spending the little they

have earned by hard industry. The gentlemen who kindly tendered us your donation, by our desire, have examined our books in order to inform themselves in what manner we apply the several donations received from our sympathizing brethren; and we also herewith inclose you a printed copy of our proceedings, which we hope will be acceptable. We can add nothing further, except presenting our best regards, and are with much esteem,

Your friends and humble servants,

JOHN AVERY, { In behalf of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To the Selectmen of the East and West Parishes of Londonderry.



REPLY TO CRANSTON.

Boston, December 8th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

By the hands of Messrs. Christopher Lippett and Nicholas Sheldon, Jr., the Committee of Donations have received your acceptable and kind present of four oxen, for the relief and benefit of the distressed sufferers in this Town, occasioned by the Act of Parliament for shutting up the Port of Boston.

We esteem it a great smile of Providence, and desire thankfully to acknowledge it as such, that our friends and brethren in this and the neighboring Provinces, have shown their truly benevolent and generous dispositions towards us, in the supplies they are from time to time sending in, for our comfort and support, among which, are the generous inhabitants of Cranston, in Rhode Island; to whom the Committee, in behalf of the Town, return their sincere and hearty thanks, and are, with great respect, their assured friends and obliged humble servants,

JOHN SOLEY, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

By the inclosed you will see the practice of the Committee in disposing of the donations they receive, which may be a satisfaction to you.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Cranston, in Rhode Island.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

New York, December 9th, 1774.

SIR,

Yesterday I received one hundred pounds, New York currency, equal to two hundred and fifty dollars, from William P. Smith, Esq., desiring me to remit it to Boston, by bill of exchange or otherwise, as I shall think best, acquainting you or any gentleman of the Committee of Correspondence there, by letter, that I had done so, and that the money is a donation from the inhabitants of Elizabethtown and Newark, in New Jersey, for assistance of their suffering countrymen in that Town.

I have made all the inquiry I can, both yesterday and to-day, but cannot meet with a bill on Boston. I therefore request that your Committee draw on me for that sum, and their bill shall be paid on sight, or direct me to remit the money in a bill of exchange on London, which I can now procure at seventy per cent. exchange, or to dispose of it any other way they may think best.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON.

To Thomas Cushing, Esq., Boston.



LETTER FROM MEDFIELD.

Medfield, December 12th, 1774.

SIR,

When a number of the inhabitants of the Town of Medfield, lately waited on you with a donation in wood and provisions for the relief of your suffering poor, under your present burthens and oppressions, you applied to me, as one of the Committee of Correspondence for said Town, to furnish you with the names of those who were assisting therein; and I encouraged you with a compliance with your request—but upon further consideration and inquiry, find it attended with more difficulty than I supposed, the

greater part of the inhabitants of the Town being aiding and assisting in it, some in one part and some in another.

I hope this will be accepted as a sufficient apology for my non-compliance, as it is next to impossible to collect every name.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

DANIEL PERRY.

To Mr. James Richardson, in Boston.

REPLY TO MEDFIELD.

Boston, Dec. 20th, 1774.

To Mr. Daniel Perry.

SIR,

The tenderest regards manifested to this distressed Town, by the worthy inhabitants of Medfield, demand our sincerest gratitude. And permit us, in their behalf, to return you our grateful acknowledgments for the same. Be assured the liberality of our worthy brethren, in this and the other Colonies, animates us to stand firm in the glorious cause, and determines us to risk even life itself; though without their assistance we must have inevitably sunk under our burthens, and become a prey to as villainous a set of men as now are on this habitable globe. Being surrounded with ships, and our Town filled with troops, and we enduring every indignity, and suffering the greatest poverty, yet trusting that our cause is righteous, we submit it to that Being who governs the world with infinite wisdom and goodness, to extricate us in his own due time; but it must depend upon our virtue and a firm reliance on Him for support. The harmony in the several Towns in this Province, and the remarkable unanimity in the Colonies, will disappoint our inveterate foes, and must render their wicked schemes abortive; therefore let us with one voice cultivate that friendship, and firmly maintain those rights and privileges, which God and nature has given us. Our enemies are trying every art to sow the seeds of dissension in the several Towns, by associations, &c., but let us guard against them and watch their motions, and, by every pru-

dent and justifiable method, baffle their weak attempts. We should be extremely well pleased, if any of the worthy inhabitants of Medfield are coming to Boston, that they would examine our books, and satisfy themselves with respect to our application of the several donations received from our kind brethren on this continent, which are open to the inspection of the whole world, and hope will meet with their approbation.

We herewith inclose you a copy of our proceedings, and are, with the greatest esteem, your friends and humble servants,

JNO. AVERY, JR., } In behalf of the Com-
mittee of Donations.



LETTER FROM AMELIA AND DINWIDDIE.

Virginia, December 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

The spirited conduct which the people of Boston have maintained, in a time of oppression, and their great perseverance in the cause of American liberty, has justly entitled them to the assistance of their fellow-subjects in the other Colonies. Actuated by this principle, the inhabitants of Amelia and Dinwiddie Counties, have sent them a small contribution of grain, to alleviate, in some degree, the sufferings which an exclusion of commerce and want of employment have occasioned among your laboring people. Sensible of the confidence reposed in you by your country, and uninformed of any particular Committee to whom we could address this donation, we have taken the liberty to desire you would order it into such a channel as that it may be productive of the end proposed.

We are, Gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servants,

JOHN TABB, *of Amelia.*

ROB'T BOLLING, }
JNO. BANNISTER, } *Dinwiddie.*

To Sam. and Jno. Adams, Esqrs. at Boston.

REPLY TO AMELIA AND DINWIDDIE.

To Messrs. Jno. Tabb, Robt. Bolling, and Jno. Bannister, at Amelia and Dinwiddie, in Virginia.

Boston, February 7th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

I duly received your letter of the 16th December, 1774, directed to Mr. Jno. Adams, and myself, acquainting us of a donation made to the sufferers in this Town by the Boston Port Bill, and desiring us to order it into such a channel as that it may be productive of the end proposed. I have accordingly laid your letter before a Committee appointed by the Town to receive and distribute donations made for that benevolent purpose, and am now, in their name, to thank you for the care you have taken, and the gentlemen of Amelia and Dinwiddie Counties, for their generous donations, assuring them that it shall be applied for the benefit of those sufferers, agreeable to their design.

It affords great satisfaction to the Committee, to have your testimony that the spirited conduct which the people of Boston have maintained in a time of oppression, and their great perseverance in the cause of American liberty, has entitled them to the assistance of their fellow-subjects in the other Colonies. While the virtuous tradesmen and others in this Town are struggling under the hand of tyranny for their adherence to so great a cause, our friends in all the other Colonies have shown an equal attachment to the common liberty, by their liberal contributions to alleviate their sufferings. Thus united and resolved to aid each other, may not the Colonies indulge a prospect that, under the influence of divine Providence, the plans of a corrupt and infatuated British Administration to enslave them, will soon be defeated, and that the restoration and establishment of the liberties of America may be the happy fruits of all our sufferings, is the ardent wish of the Committee, in whose behalf I subscribe,

Gentlemen, your affectionate friend, and obliged humble servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.

LETTER FROM NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

Providence, December 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

With the letter inclosed, we received a bill of lading for two barrels rye flour; eight barrels wheat ditto; two barrels pork; one tierce of wheat, quantity six bushels; one tierce and two barrels, quantity fourteen bushels corn; 471 bushels rye; sent as a donation from the County of Middlesex, in New Jersey. We have taken care to have the goods stored, and now wait your orders for the further disposal of them. If there is any of the articles that you choose should be transported to Boston, we will endeavor to forward them on the easiest terms we can, and what you may think best to be sold here for cash, shall be negotiated as you may order. Wishing you to persevere in the good cause in which you are assigned so hard a lot, we are your friends. Signed per order of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of Providence,

JAMES ANGELL.

To the Committee for receiving Donations for the Town of Boston.

New Brunswick, Nov. 15th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Here inclosed is a bill lading for sundry articles, chiefly the donation of the County of Middlesex, in New Jersey, for the use of the sufferers in Boston, which I hope will arrive safe to hand, and as there is some money in my hand, and more expected, please to let me know what will be most beneficial; whether cash, rye, flour, or any other article that may be purchased here, and if it may be convenient to ship it to Providence, which we can readily do, as we have two sloops trading from this place to Newport, and what directions you give shall be cheerfully complied with by,

Your very humble servant,

JAMES NEILSON.

To the Honorable Committee for the Sufferers in Boston, or to their Attorney in Providence.

REPLIES TO NEW BRUNSWICK.

Boston, December 21, 1774.

SIR,

Your agreeable favor of 16th instant, inclosing one of the 15th ult., from Mr. James Neilson, of New Brunswick, came to hand the last evening. We observe, with gratitude, the generous donation from our worthy brethren of New Brunswick, as also the kind part you have undertaken respecting the same. We could wish to have received the provisions themselves ; but as we apprehend the transportation by water may now be difficult and hazardous, if not impracticable, and the charges, whether by land or water, very considerable, it is the opinion of the Committee that the donation should be sold at Providence, to the best advantage, and the cash sent per some good opportunity. Your very friendly offer in this way to afford us your further assistance respecting this matter, lays us under additional obligation.

We hope that by the continued favor of our God, we shall be enabled still to conduct in such manner as shall in the issue secure the just rights and liberties, not only of this greatly distressed and injured Town and Province, but also of all North America.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your much obliged friends and servants,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To Mr. James Angell, at Providence.

Boston, December 21, 1774.

SIR,

Last evening the Committee of Donations received a letter from Mr. James Angell, of Providence, dated the 16th instant, inclosing your agreeable favor of New Brunswick, 15th ult. He has received two barrels rye flour, eight barrels wheat flour, two barrels pork, one tierce, quantity six bushels, and one tierce and two barrels, quantity fourteen bushels corn, and four hundred and seventy-one bushels rye, (as per his letter,) the seasonable and

generous donation of the patriotic inhabitants of Middlesex County, &c., in New Jersey.

You will please to present the grateful acknowledgments of this Committee, in behalf of this much injured and greatly oppressed people, for this instance of their Christian sympathy and affection. And, as to what remains in your hand, and what you further expect, of which you kindly inform us in your letter, perhaps, as you suggest, it may be as well to forward it in cash, as in any thing else, the season being so far advanced. However, we shall leave it with our kind benefactors to act in this matter as shall be most convenient and agreeable to them.

This Committee, considering the risk and difficulty, as well as expense, of transporting from Providence the above said donation, especially at this time of year, have desired our worthy brethren at Providence to sell the same to the best advantage and forward the money to us per some good opportunity. To this purpose we now write them.

If our brethren of New Brunswick should think it best to send the remainder in provisions, would it not be as convenient to forward it to New York, as to Providence, from whence (i. e. New York) it may be full as easy to transport to Boston, via Salem, as from Providence.

We have nothing of a public nature to communicate, save that a gentleman of this Town has received a letter, dated Bristol, October 22d, wherein the writer, who had had a long conference with Lord Clare, says, that by a steady, manly, firm conduct in the Colonies united, we should most assuredly succeed to our wish.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your affectionate and very obliged friend and fellow-countryman,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To James Neilson, Esq., at New Brunswick, New Jersey.



LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 16th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We have now to advise that a few months since we received, in company with Philip Livingston, Esq., three

hundred and seventy-five tierces of rice, from our friend Mr. Levinus Clarkson, of Charleston, South Carolina,¹ for sales on account of the poor at Boston. This quantity we have finished the sales of, and the whole will soon fall due, so that we shall be glad of your instructions for applying the proceeds, which it was judged might be ordered in flour from this.

By the schooner Chester, Henry Ricker, master, who arrived a few days since, we received the further quantity of one hundred and three tierces, addressed to ourselves by

¹ The intelligence of the passage of the Boston Port Bill was received in Charleston, South Carolina, on the 31st of May, by a packet from Philadelphia; and excited general indignation.—*Essex Gazette*, June 28. On the 13th of June, the Charleston Committee resolved to call a meeting of the inhabitants of the whole Province, to take place on the 5th of July, and “to write to leading men in every part of the country, acquainting them with the present state of America” and requesting them to send deputies to this meeting.—*Boston Gazette*, July 4. Meantime a subscription was opened for the relief of Boston in the manner indicated in the following public notice:—

Charleston, S. C., June 24, 1774.

Many generous and charitable persons in this Colony, being desirous to send, and we the Subscribers having been requested to receive donations for the relief of our distressed brethren of Boston, now suffering for the common cause of America, under the late most cruel, arbitrary and oppressive Act of the British Parliament, for the shutting up of that Port—in order that so laudable, and at the same time necessary a mark of our real sympathy and union with our sister Colonies, may not appear to have the least slight shown to it: Give this public notice, that whatever shall be sent to us, or either of us, for that purpose, shall be faithfully, and as expeditiously as possible, forwarded to the direction of gentlemen of known probity, public spirit, and honor in Boston, for the benefit of such poor persons, whose unfortunate circumstances, occasioned by the operation of that unconstitutional Act, may be thought to stand in most need of immediate assistance.

DANIEL HORRY.
JAMES PARSONS
WILLIAM WILLIAMSON.
MILES BREWTON.
LEVINUS CLARKSON.
THOMAS LYNCH.
THOMAS FERGUSON.

PAUL TRAPIER.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT,
 of Beaufort.
JOHN NEUFVILLE.
CHARLES ELLIOTT.
CHARLES PINCKNEY.
CHRIST. GADSDEN.

N. B.—Any rice that shall be sent to Mr. Gadsden's wharf, for the above purpose, shall be there landed, shipped, and (if occasion) stored without a farthing's charge.

The *Essex Gazette* of July 19, has the following paragraph, dated Charleston, June 27:—“A sloop is now loaded, at Mr. Gadsden's wharf, and ready to clear out with rice, being a part of the benevolent contribution of the inhabitants of this Colony, for the immediate relief of those poor of Boston, for having exerted themselves in defence of the constitutional rights of America. Subscriptions and collections are also making in different parts of the country, for the same purpose, from whence it may be seen, whether we will desert any sister Colony in distress.” A letter dated Charleston, June 30, states: “The inhabitants of Boston are cruelly treated. The people here pity and feel greatly for them. Subscriptions are open, and large donations are made every day for their relief. A sloop sailed yesterday for Salem, with 20 barrels of pork, besides a considerable sum in specie, and it is expected they will be able to collect the value of

Roger Smith, Esq., for the same benevolent purpose, of which we shall dispose on the best terms in our power, and transmit you sales of the whole when completed. We shall wish to receive your instructions as soon as convenient, and are, respectfully,

Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

CHAS. McEVERS & Co.

To Jno. Rowe, and Jno. Hancock, Esqrs., at Boston.

one thousand barrels of rice. A gentleman of this Province, now in England, wrote to his correspondent here to give not less than fifty pounds sterling, but if he thought it proper, to give as far as five hundred pounds." (A cordial this, for the industrious poor.)

The Boston Gazette of July 25. 1774, contains the "Resolutions unanimously entered into by the inhabitants of South Carolina, at a general meeting held at Charleston, in the said Colony, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 6th, 7th, and 8th days of July, 1774." They occupy over a column, and state that the Acts of the British Parliament, "though levelled immediately at the people of Boston, very manifestly and glaringly show, if the inhabitants of that Town are intimidated into a mean submission to said Acts, that the like are designed for all the Colonies:" "That not only the dictates of humanity, but the soundest principles of true policy and self preservation, make it absolutely necessary, for the inhabitants of all the Colonies in America, to assist and support the people of Boston, by all lawful ways in their power:" and "that, while the oppressive Acts relative to Boston are enforced, we will cheerfully, from time to time, contribute towards the relief of such poor persons there, whose unfortunate circumstances, occasioned by the operations of those Acts, may be thought to stand in need of most assistance."

The Boston Gazette of the 15th of August, contains about two columns of "further particulars" relative to this meeting, copied from a South Carolina journal. It is here stated, that it was "the largest body of the most respectable inhabitants that had been ever seen together upon any public occasion," in Charleston, "or perhaps any where in America:" that it was determined to transmit its resolutions "to every Colony on this continent, from Canada to West Florida, accompanied with a letter to each, respectively, signed by the Chairman, inviting them to unite with us." This relation closes in the following language: "Be comforted, ye oppressed Bostonians! and exult, ye northern votaries of liberty! that the sacred rays of freedom, which used to beam from you on us, are now reverberated, with double efficacy, back upon yourselves, from your weaker sister, Carolina, who stands foremost in a resolution to sacrifice her all, in your defence. And tremble, minions of slavery,—a blow will soon be struck, if you urge us to that extremity, which will convince you, that one soul animates three millions of brave Americans, though extended over a long tract of two thousand miles. Ye vainly thought we were a rope of sand, but you will find, unless we are put on the same footing with Englishmen, before nine months, millions of people who depend on America for their daily bread, will curse you with their dying groans."

The South Carolina Provincial Congress, which met at Charleston, on the 11th of January, 1775, and of which Charles Pinckney was President, passed the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That it be strongly recommended to the Parochial and District Committees, to use their utmost endeavors to obtain liberal donations for the relief of the suffering people in the Town of Boston and Colony of Massachusetts Bay. And that all such donations as may be collected from time to time, be transmitted to the General Committee in Charleston."—*Ed.*

REPLY TO NEW YORK.

*Boston, 7th February, 1775.**Philip Livingston, Esq., and Messrs. C. McEvers & Co. (New York.)*

GENTLEMEN,

Your esteemed favors of 16th December, addressed to John Hancock and John Rowe, Esqrs., also your favor 30th ultimo, directed to John Rowe, Esq., have been communicated to the Committee appointed by the Town of Boston to receive Donations for the relief and employment of the unhappy sufferers by the Port Bill, who have directed us to answer them.

We observe by your favor 16th December, that you had completed the sales three hundred and seventy-five tierces rice, which you sometime since received from our worthy, sympathizing brethren at Charleston, South Carolina, the net proceeds to be applied for the support, &c., of the distressed, industrious tradesmen and others in this Town, and that you had more lately received from the same place, one hundred and three tierces rice, the net proceeds thereof to be applied to the like benevolent purposes.

We should be much obliged, gentlemen, if you would favor us with an account of what monies you may have in hand from the sales of the rice, in order that the Committee may be enabled to draw for the same, provided they can find purchasers for their bills.

We are also to desire you would let us know the value with you of sterling bills on London, and would beg leave to ask whether you think it practicable to invest the whole monies in heavy guineas and hard dollars, so that it might be brought here by land carriage without loss. Any bills that you have already or may hereafter procure on Boston, the Committee will gladly receive.

We are to request your answer, as soon as may be convenient, which when we receive shall communicate to the Committee, and acquaint you in due time with their determinations.

We have it, gentlemen, in particular charge from the Committee, to return you their hearty thanks for the kind

and friendly part you have taken in this affair, which we now do with great pleasure, and are, very respectfully,

Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

JOHN BROWN, } *Two of the Commit-*
DANIEL WALDO, } *tee of Donations.*



LETTER FROM CHESTERFIELD COUNTY.

Virginia, Chesterfield County, 17th Dec., 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Agreeable to a Resolution entered into by the Delegates of this Colony in August last, subscriptions have been made for the unhappy inhabitants of Boston, whose case we look upon as our own, and cannot enough admire their fortitude under such cruel oppression as they, for their own and the common cause of America, have and are yet suffering. We now send to your address the donation of our constituents, which we make no doubt you will have properly disposed of to such as are objects of charity. It would have been sent sooner, but we could not procure a vessel until grain for the same purpose was brought in from Counties more remote, as what was subscribed in this County was not sufficient for a load; indeed our county grain is not yet all brought in, so that we expect to send it with what is not yet brought down from the upper people; but as we have not all the subscription papers in our possession, we cannot ascertain how much is left, but judge about two hundred bushels.

The bill of lading inclosed is for 1,436½ bushels, but of that there is 210 bushels of wheat and 12½ of corn, delivered in our granary by the people of Cumberland, and by mistake a receipt taken and bills of lading given as from Chesterfield. There was but little money subscribed; what was we have paid the captain in part for his freight. The captain has said in his bill of lading that the whole freight is here paid, but it is not so, and you are desired to sell as much of the grain as will pay the balance. Inclosed you

have an account of what is paid. We are told the freight is rather high. As we were not accustomed to that branch of business, we left it to Mr. John Tabb, to make the agreement with the owner of the vessel, and he agreed to give one shilling this currency per bushel. We understand there is about 3,500 bushels in this vessel from the several Counties nigh this. We are desired to inform you that there is on board $192\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat, a donation from the people of Goochland County, the freight of which is paid here. We flatter ourselves you will excuse the trouble we give you on this occasion. It is a tribute you must pay to the high confidence your countrymen have placed in you, by which your characters are made known to us.

We are, Gentlemen, with the greatest esteem, your obedient, humble servants,

ARCHIBALD CARY.

BENJA. WATKINS.

To the Honorable Thomas Cushing, Esq., Jno. Adams, Esq., Mr. Samuel Adams and Robert Treat Paine, Esqs., Boston.

REPLY TO CHESTERFIELD COUNTY.

February 1, 1775.

Messrs. Benja. Watkins and Archibald Cary, Chesterfield County, Virginia.

GENTLEMEN,

Capt. Tompkins duly delivered your letter, dated Virginia, Chesterfield County, Dec. 1774, directed to Mr. Cushing, Mr. John Adams, Mr. Paine and myself, with a bill of lading inclosed for 1,054 bushels of wheat, $376\frac{1}{2}$ bushels corn, and five bushels peas, of which 210 bushels wheat, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ corn we perceive comes from the people of Cumberland. As this Town have appointed a Committee to receive and distribute donations made for the relief and employment of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, for which charitable purpose these donations of your constituents are appropriated, your letter and the bill of lading are assigned to them, and in their name I am now to desire you to accept of their grateful acknowledgments for the benev-

olent part you have taken, and also to make their returns of gratitude to the worthy gentlemen of Chesterfield and Cumberland County, for the very generous assistance they have afforded for the relief of the inhabitants of Boston, yet suffering, as you express it, under cruel oppression for the common cause of America. It is a sense of the dignity of the cause which animates them to suffer with that fortitude which you are pleased candidly to attribute to them ; and while they are thus encouraged and supported by the sister Colonies, they will, by God's assistance, rather than injure or stain that righteous cause, endure the conflict to the utmost.

The Committee have received 192½ bushels of wheat, mentioned in your letter, as a donation from the people of Goochland County. You will greatly oblige the Committee if you will return their hearty thanks to their generous friends in that County.

I am, with truth and sincerity, Gentlemen, your respectful friend and humble servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.



REPLY TO CHATHAM.

Boston, December 17th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Sensible of the many obligations that we are under for the many acts of kindness received from our kind and sympathizing brethren in Connecticut, and in particular for the kind donation received from our worthy brethren in Chatham, of ten sheep, which we esteem as expressive of the most endearing friendship and tender regard, and it is with pleasure we now take this agreeable opportunity of making some grateful return, which, though inadequate to so great kindness, yet it is all in our power, but hope the Parent of nature and of every good, will reward you.

Our situation is truly distressing ; families that have lived in the greatest affluence are now reduced to the most

disagreeable circumstances ; and was it not for the sympathy manifested by our worthy brethren in the other Colonies, we must have fallen a prey to a most cruel and arbitrary ministry ; but, through God's goodness, the hearts of our brethren are open, which animates us to persevere, though under the severest trials, and makes us determined to risk even life itself rather than give up our rights and privileges.

We should have esteemed it as a great pleasure to have seen the gentleman who brought us your kind donation, in order that he might have seen our books, and the method we take of relieving the necessities of our distressed inhabitants, which perhaps would have been satisfactory. However, we herewith inclose you a printed copy of our proceedings.

We are, Gentlemen, with the greatest esteem, your very obliged friends and countrymen,

JOHN AVERY, JUN., { In behalf of the Committee of Donations.

To the Selectmen, to be communicated to the Committee of Correspondence in Chatham, in Connecticut.

Per favor Major Champlin.



LETTER FROM HENRICO COUNTY.

GENTLEMEN,

As soon as [we] were informed of the unjustifiable attack made on the liberties of our worthy brethren, the Bostonians, the County of Henrico set about a subscription for the relief of the poor of its inhabitants. Lest necessity should prevent their giving their noble leaders such assistance as is most sincerely and unanimously wished for by every Virginian, therefore take the freedom to inclose you bills of lading for three hundred twenty-nine and one half bushels wheat, one hundred and thirty-five bushels corn, and twenty-three barrels flour, which we wish safe to hand ; and we doubt not your giving the necessary instructions

to your Overseers to answer the intention of my constituents.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHARD RANDOLPH.

Curls ? Virginia, Henrico County, December 19th, 1774.

REPLY TO HENRICO COUNTY.

Boston, February 1, 1775.

Richard Randolph, Esq., Virginia, Henrico County.

SIR,

Your letter of the 29th December last, directed to Mr. Cushing, Mr. John Adams, Mr. Paine and myself, inclosing bill of lading for three hundred twenty-nine and a half bushels wheat, one hundred thirty-five bushels corn, and twenty-three barrels flour, was delivered to us by Capt. Tompkins, and we have laid it before the Committee of this Town appointed to receive and distribute Donations made for the relief and employment of the sufferers by the Port Bill. I am, in the name of the Committee, to desire you to return their hearty thanks to the worthy gentlemen of Henrico County, who have so generously contributed for that charitable purpose, and to assure them that their donations shall be applied so as duly to answer their benevolent intention.

The Colony of Virginia made an early stand, by their ever memorable Resolves in 1765, against the efforts of a corrupt British Administration to enslave America, and has ever distinguished herself by her exertions in support of our common rights. The sister Colonies struggled separately, but the Minister himself has at length united them, and they have lately uttered language that will be heard. It is the fate of this Town to drink deep of the cup of ministerial vengeance ; but while America bears them witness that they suffer in *her* cause, they glory in their sufferings. Being thus supported by *her* liberality, they will never ungratefully betray her rights. Inheriting the spirit

of their virtuous ancestors, they will, after their example, endure hardships, and confide in an all-gracious Providence. Having been born to be free, they will never disgrace themselves by a mean submission to the injurious terms of slavery. These, Sir, I verily believe to be the sentiments of our inhabitants, and if I am not mistaken, such assistances are to be expected from them, as you assure us are most sincerely and unanimously wished by every Virginian.

I am, in the name of the Committee, Sir, your sincere friend and fellow-countryman,

SAM'L ADAMS.



LETTER FROM JAMES RIVER COUNTY.

GENTLEMEN,

This will be delivered you by Capt. Robert Tompkins, in my schooner, the *Dunmore*, who brings you a load of donation wheat, corn and flour from James River, for the poor of your City. I refer you for particulars to the letters he will deliver you from the several gentlemen who had the management of the subscriptions for the different Counties from which this supply comes. The charter party run for twenty — days here, but the gentlemen found so much inconvenience in the collecting, that she has been detained near two months. However, the affair being of so public and very laudable a nature, I never thought of damage, and hope it may be some incitement for dispatch with you. The gentlemen were willing the *Dunmore* might discharge at Salem, should there be any apprehension of her being froze up at Boston. This may be thought but reasonable, as, had she met with the dispatch expected here, she might and would have been now on her inward passage. The captain has orders on you for some freight, which could not in time be so conveniently made up here, has other monies to lay out in your country, rum, molasses, &c. Were it [not] thought too much, I should venture to recommend Capt. Tompkins, being a stranger, to your notice and advice, in laying out his money to the best advantage in such

of your commodities as may at the time be most reasonable with you. He has also a quantity of butter to dispose of, which I hope may come to a saving market.

A report at this time prevails here, that men of war are ordered to be stationed at New York, Pennsylvania, here, and to the southward, to prevent our exports. I have for some time expected such a measure, but still hope our intelligence is premature. You may depend the Virginians are unanimous, steady and firm to the cause they have embarked in, and will struggle hard for the prize now contending for. I have this very day heard, that in that tract of Virginia called the Northern Neck, and which lies betwixt Rappahannock and Potomack rivers, they have lately raised one thousand volunteers, as fine fellows and good woodsmen as any on our continent, who have put themselves under the command of Col. George Washington, a brave and experienced officer, whom it is said, has undertaken the command of them, and that they are soon to march for your place. Governor Eadon, of Maryland, is just arrived with his lady, at Annapolis, from London, and it seems has brought in some tea with him, I presume for his own use, but that the inhabitants will not let him land it. All this, if true, you will soon have in the papers, probably before this reaches. Our governor has at last concluded a peace with the several nations of Indians on our frontiers, and brought in hostages. The Indians in the treaty have ceded as much of their lands as will sell, to reimburse the expenses of the war, thought to be above £100,000. Our assembly stands prorogued to the 6th of February, and will not meet sooner, unless anything from beyond the water should occasion it. Some ships lately arrived here, having brought in goods, they are all ordered to be stored agreeable to association, and a ship from London who had only two half chests of hyson tea on board, was sent back again to England, in ballast, and the tea thrown into York river.

I am, with respect, Gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM BLACK.

To the Honorable Thomas Cushing, Esq., Messrs. Adams's and Paine, in Boston.

Dec. 22d, 17[74,] James River, Virginia.

Per the Dunmore, Capt. Robt. Tompkins.

REPLY TO JAMES RIVER COUNTY.

To Mr. Wm. Black, in James River, Virginia.

SIR,

Your letter of the 24th December last to Mr. Cushing and others, by Capt. Tompkins, of the schooner Dunmore, in which was brought several valuable donations from our friends in Virginia, to the sufferers in this Town by the Port Bill, was communicated to the Committee appointed to receive such donations, and by their direction I am to acquaint you that they cheerfully consented, at your request, that the schooner should be discharged at Salem, thinking themselves under obligation to promote her dispatch, more especially as there was unexpected delay in her loading, and you have very generously declined receiving demurrage.

We have repeatedly had abundant evidence of the firmness of our brethren of Virginia in the American cause, and have reason to confide in them that they will struggle hard for the prize now contending for.

I am desired by the Committee to acquaint you that a ship has lately sailed from this place bound to James River, in Virginia; the master's name is Crowel Hatch. When he was building his ship, a proposal was made to him by some of the Committee, to employ the tradesmen of this Town, for which he should receive a recompense by a discount of five per cent on their several bills, but he declined to accept of the proposal. This, you are sensible, would have been the means of his employing our sufferers at their usual rates, and at the same time as cheap to him as if he had got his vessel built by more ordinary workmen from the country. There is also another circumstance which I must relate to you. Capt. Hatch proposed that the Committee should employ our smith, in making anchors for his vessel, at a price by which they could get nothing but their labor for their pains, because he could purchase cast anchors imported here, for the same price, which was refused. At this he was very angry, and (perhaps in a gust of passion) declared in the hearing of several persons of credit, that he was used ill, threatening repeatedly that he would

stop all the donations he could, and that no more should come from the place where he was going to, meaning Virginia. These facts the Committee thought it necessary to communicate to you, and to beg the favor of you to use your influence that Capt. Hatch may not have it in his power, (if he should be disposed,) to traduce the Committee and injure the sufferers in this Town, for whose relief our friends in Virginia have so generously contributed.

I am, in the name of the Committee, Sir, your obliged friend and humble servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.



REPLY TO NORTH KINGSTON.

Boston, December 27th, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

We have once and again had occasions to acknowledge the receipt of very kind and seasonable donations, for the relief and support of the sufferers in this Town, by means of the Boston Port Bill, from our sympathizing and charitable brethren in the patriotic Colony of Rhode Island, as well as elsewhere. And we have now to acknowledge the fresh receipt of a like favor, that is to say, of seventy sheep, from a number of our worthy countrymen, in North Kingston, yesterday.

You will please to return the sincere thanks of the Committee of Donations, in behalf of this much injured and greatly oppressed Town, to our generous benefactors, to whom we wish a plentiful reward from our most gracious God, who has inclined your hearts thus to consider your afflicted brethren, and who is able to multiply your seed sown, and to increase the fruits of your righteousness, and finally, to grant us the desire of our hearts, by delivering us from the hands of our enemies. We are particularly obliged to you, gentlemen, for your care and trouble in handing the above donation to us.

Inclosed is an account, heretofore communicated to the public, of the general method observed by the Committee

in the distribution of the charities of our friends, which we hope may be satisfactory to them. A sovereign and all-wise Providence has been pleased to appoint us our present lot. God is merciful and righteous, and we may not find fault with his dispensations ; but we may complain of men who have dealt unrighteously and cruelly with us. We are commanded, in every thing to give thanks ; these we would render to God, for all his kind interpositions and gracious appearances in our behalf, and who has hitherto directed and assisted us, and to Him it is our duty to look for future help and direction, and further supplies.

We wish you prosperity, and are, Gentlemen, your most obliged friends and fellow countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations. •

To Peter Phillips, Esq., Messrs. Charles Tillinghast and Ezekiel Gardner, at North Kingston, King's County, Rhode Island.



LETTER FROM WELLFLEET.

Wellfleet, December 29th, 1774.

MR. SHARP—SIR,

We understanding you are one of the gentlemen that was appointed to the service of such donations as should be sent for the relief of the poor of the Town of Boston, we have sent you, by the bearer, forty pounds lawful money, which was obtained by subscription in Wellfleet, and as soon as we have had our contributions, we shall send it the first opportunity.

From your friends and well-wishers,

ELISHA COBB.

JOSEPH HIGGINS.

To Mr. Gibbens Sharp, in Boston.



LETTER FROM ISAAC VAN DAM.

Mr. John Hancock, or the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston.

SIR,

Inclosed you will receive sales of a parcel corn, I received by the schooner Sally, Capt. James Perkins, who

belongs to Virginia and was bound to Boston, for the relief of the distressed inhabitants of that Town, and by meeting of frequent gales of wind was obliged to put into this port, where I have sold the corn to the best advantage, and now inclose you a bill of exchange drawn by Mr. Sampson Mears, on Isaac Moses, of New York, at thirty days' sight, for one hundred and seventy-one pounds, eight shillings, New York currency. And as this amount was a generous donation from Essex County, in Virginia, to those people who have virtuously dared to oppose a wicked and corrupt ministry, in their tyrannical acts of despotism, I think myself happy in having this opportunity of doing the business without charging a commission, or any other expense attending it here.

Wishing them a speedy relief from this new Parliament, and am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

ISAAC VAN DAM.

R E P L Y .

Boston, Feb. 28, 1775.

To Isaac Van Dam, Esq., at St. Eustatia.

SIR,

Your letter of the 30th December, addressed to John Hancock, Esq., has been laid before the Committee appointed by this Town, to receive and distribute the donations made for the employment and relief of the sufferers by the Act of Parliament, commonly called the Boston Port Bill. I am directed by the Committee to return you their hearty thanks for the care you have generously taken in the disposal of a parcel of corn, (free of charge,) which was shipped for that charitable purpose, by our friends in Essex County, in Virginia, on board the schooner Sally, James Perkins, master, driven by stress of weather to St. Eustatia. An account of sales of the corn was inclosed in your letter, together with a bill of exchange drawn by Mr. Sampson Mears on Mr. Isaac Moses of New York, for one hundred seventy-one pounds, eight shillings, that currency, being the amount thereof.

The opinion you have formed of the inhabitants of this

Town, as having so virtuously dared to oppose a wicked and corrupt ministry, in their tyrannical acts of despotism, must needs be very flattering to them. The testimony of our friends so fully in our favor, more especially of those who are not immediately interested in the unhappy contest between Britain and her Colonies, must strongly excite this people to a perseverance in so righteous a cause.

Be pleased, Sir, to accept of due acknowledgments for your kind wishes for our speedy relief, and be assured that I am, (in the name of the Committee,)

Your very obliged friend and humble servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.



LETTER FROM BRISTOL.

Rhode Island, Bristol, 30th December, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

Agreeable to a vote of the Town of Bristol, appointing me to send you the money that should be raised in said Town for the support of the distressed inhabitants of Boston, I now send you by Mr. Mumford, the small sum of forty-seven pounds, seventeen shillings and six pence, lawful money, to be by you disposed of for the purpose aforesaid, at your discretion, which was all that could be at this time collected. Should have been exceeding glad it had been more; but you may depend that all due care will be taken in this Town, from time to time, to afford you that relief your circumstances may require, and our abilities will afford, to enable you to hold out in so just a cause against the combination of all wicked and mischievous beings, from the highest source of evil down to Lord North. That you may be so enabled to hold out, and be finally victorious over your and our enemies, shall be my constant care, by all the industry in my power to contribute, as it will afford me the greatest pleasure on earth.

I am, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM BRADFORD.

£47 17s. 6d.

To Sam'l Adams, Esq., and others, the Committee for receiving the Donations for the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO BRISTOL.

Boston, Jan. 2d, 1774.

SIR,

We are much obliged for your care in forwarding to the Committee of Donations the generous subscriptions of our worthy brethren of Bristol, for the support of the distressed inhabitants of Boston, amounting to forty-seven pounds, seventeen shillings, six pence, per Mr. Mumford. It shall be applied agreeable to the intent of the benevolent donors. Inclosed is a printed account of the general method observed by the Committee in the distributions of the charities of our friends, which we hope will prove satisfactory.

The Committee present their sincere thanks, in behalf of the Town of Boston, for this instance of their kindness, and are particularly obliged for their purpose to afford further relief in time to come, should the case require it. Our humble acknowledgments are due to God, who has raised up benefactors to this much abused and oppressed Town. Under all our darkness, some light hath been made to arise.

We trust our cause, which indeed is a common cause, and of the greatest importance to America, is a righteous cause, and that God will maintain it. If he shall please to grant us the wisdom and prudence, the firmness and help and blessing we need, we shall put our enemies to shame, and in due time have cause to rejoice in his great salvation.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your much obliged suffering friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To Dr. William Bradford.



LETTER FROM SALEM.

Salem, January 2d, 1775.

SIR,

The distress of Boston has long called on us to reach out the hand of help for your relief. I and my people

heard the cry, and plotted for your relief; but as it was proposed that the Town, as such, should raise a generous sum, we were prevented making a collection, till God in his holy and wise providence was pleased to take away our meeting-house by fire, by which my people, poor before, were reduced to distress, which is greatly increased by an unhappy division which has taken place among us, the separation headed by Mr. Daniel Hopkins, who taking advantage of our distress has set up another meeting-house, by which our society is greatly diminished, so that we are unable to build another house, without large charitable assistance of our Christian brethren abroad.

But notwithstanding these great difficulties, and the smallness of the place where we meet, viz. the school-house, which prevents many from assembling, we have, out of our deep poverty, been the first society in Town which has contributed to your relief. The sum is small, viz. £24 16s. 8d.; we wish it had been ten times more; but considering our circumstances, we presume you, and the worthy Committee, will accept it as a token of our love and tender concern for your distressed state, and account it as the widow's mite.

Should you publish an account of this collection, you may greatly serve this poor afflicted society should you add a word by way of motive to the charitable to lodge such donations as they may make for our relief in the hand of Capt. Thomas Mason, of Salem; but this I submit to your prudence, hoping in God, whose is the earth and the fullness of it, to supply all our wants, and to remove from you the iron rod of oppression, and restore to you and this whole land all our civil and religious privileges.

I am, in the name of my people, your humble servant,

NATH'L WHITAKER.

N. B.—I hope our forwardness has provoked many to the same good work, for I hear the lower parish are exerting themselves. Mr. Gould, one of my people, is the bearer.

REPLY TO SALEM.

Boston, January 3d, 1775.

REVEREND SIR,

I am to acknowledge your favor of the second instant, per Mr. Gould, by whom we received the generous donation from your parish in Salem, of twenty-four pounds, sixteen shillings and eight pence, lawful money, which we esteem very highly under your present distressing circumstances, occasioned by the holy providence of God depriving you lately of your meeting-house by fire, so that out of your deep poverty, we can add, *your liberality has abounded to us*, in this distressed Town. We trust this act of kindness shown to us under our present difficulties, will be abundantly made up to the generous donors, not only in temporal but spiritual blessings; and may God unite, strengthen, stablish and settle you in his good time. I am also to desire you would return the thanks of the Committee of Donations, in behalf of the Town, [to the] donors, and that you would accept the same for your friendly assistance therein, and am, with great respect,

Reverend Sir, your most humble servant,

BEN. AUSTIN, { Per order of
the Committee.

To the Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Whitaker, at Salem.



REPLY TO RUTLAND.

Boston, January [] 1775.

SIR,

While struggling under the cruel hand of oppression, we are animated and enabled to persevere in our opposition, by the sympathy of our kind friends and countrymen, discovered in their generous donations for the relief and support of our industrious poor, who are by the Port Bill thrown [out of all busi]ness, and would otherwise be reduced to the greatest poverty and distress. We have frequent occasions of returning our hearty thanks to our kind benefactors for their generous donations, and particularly, now, have the pleasure of returning you our grateful

REPLY TO EASTHAM.

Boston, January 4th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The many generous donations from our worthy and patriotic friends in this and the other governments, call for our grateful acknowledgments; by which we are enabled to support the many industrious poor and distressed families in this Town, which would otherwise be reduced to the greatest difficulties, at this time, when we are struggling under the cruel hand of oppression, in support of the common cause of liberty. We consider ourselves as stationed by the providence of God, in the first rank of opposition to the cruel measures of an incensed ministry; and our duty is, firmly to maintain our ground, which we trust God, the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, will enable us to do, so as to defeat the designs of administration, to enslave not only this Province but all America. We return you our unfeigned thanks for your donation of three pounds, thirteen shillings and six pence, lawful money, by the hands of our worthy friends, Messrs. Pain and Davis, and you may assure yourselves it shall be applied (with all other donations) to the benevolent purposes designed by the donors, notwithstanding any representation of our adversaries to the contrary. The above gentlemen have had the perusal of our books, and we flatter ourselves are satisfied with our method of distributing the donations committed to our care.

We inclose you a printed account of our proceedings, and are, with respect, Gentlemen, your hearty friends and countrymen,

¹ [] { In behalf of the Committee of Donations.

To the inhabitants of the South Parish, Eastham.



LETTER FROM SALEM.

Salem, January 9th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Being sensible of the suffering of your whole Town, and in particular the distressed circumstances of your poor at this alarming crisis of affairs, take this opportunity to

¹ The signature to several of the letters has been cut out.

express our sympathy with you in your distresses, and send you by the hands of Mr. John Andrew, the small pittance collected in the society (in the east part of Salem) where the Reverend Mr. James Dimon officiates, which you will please to accept.

DAVID PHIPPEN,
BENJ. WARD, Jun. } *Committee.*
JOHN ANDREW,

P. S.—Sum sent is £86 15s. lawful money.

More, . . . 6

£87 1—including £6 lawful money which Capt. Derby's charge of storage of rice, &c.

REPLY TO SALEM.

Boston, January 10th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Your favor of 9th inst. per Mr. Jno. Andrews, our worthy friend, the Committee of Donations received the last evening, together with the sum of £87 1s. lawful money, a donation from the East Parish in Salem, for the relief of the poor in this difficult season of the year, and while we are suffering under oppressions from the hand of power. The cause in which we suffer, we look upon not only as the cause of Boston and Salem, or even the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, but the common cause of North America. Providence has allotted us our particular place and station, and the part we are to bear during the important struggles. God has hitherto helped and supported us ; and if he shall be pleased to favor us, we shall prove victorious, notwithstanding the policy and power, the envy and restlessness, the pride and rage of our inveterate enemies.

The union of the Colonies, and their liberality in the supplies afforded for the relief of this greatly distressed Town, demand a tribute of praise to God, who in these respects, as well as many others, has so remarkably smiled upon, and favored this people. Why should not we look upon these things as tokens for good? Certainly we are to consider them as light arising in our darkness ; and

inspiration informs us that it is good both to hope and quietly wait for the salvation of God. As for God, his work is perfect. Our friends at Salem are to be reckoned among the number of our kind benefactors. Their Christian sympathy greatly affects us. You will be pleased to present the grateful acknowledgments of this Committee, in behalf of the Town of Boston, for this instance of their tender affection and love. May the Lord reward them abundantly.

Enclosed is a printed account of the general conduct of the Committee, respecting the distributions of the charities of our friends, which we hope will be satisfactory.

We are, Gentlemen, your much obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Messrs. David Shippen, Ben. Ward, Jun., and John Andrews.



LETTER FROM CAPT. RYSAM.

Gurneth, Jan. 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

I have, according to your request, shipped all the goods for the donations of Boston that was saved out of the sloop *Friendship*, Thomas Pierce, Master, from Virginia, on board the sloop *Three Friends*, Capt. William Bartlet, who is to bring them to Boston, for which I have left you to settle the freight as you may think fit. Shipped 768 bushels corn, 30 barrels pork, 38 barrels ship bread, 9 barrels flour, which I hope will be serviceable in your great wants, which is all the goods that we have saved. The expense has been very great, which I shall give you an account of in a few days, as soon as I shall be able to settle with different people.

Gentlemen, I am, with respect, your humble servant,

WM. JOHNSON RYSAM.

768 bushels corn,	The Capt's account.	776½ bushels corn,
30 barrels pork,		10 barrels flour,
38 barrels bread,		40 barrels bread,
9 barrels flour.		30 barrels pork.

LETTER FROM TEMPLE, N. H.

New Hampshire, January 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

You will receive, we suppose, by the bearer, Mr. John Cragin, of Temple, a small quantity of rye, about forty bushels, from an infant settlement, collected by a free and cheerful contribution from most of the inhabitants, in consequence of a previous recommendation by the Town. Agreeable to the proposal of the Town, we send it to you, to be disposed of by you for the benefit of the poor of the Town of Boston, that have been reduced to straits by the unjust and cruel Port Bill. We assure you that we heartily sympathize with you, and earnestly pray, that as your day is your strength may be. That you may be undaunted, faithful and wise, and by your steady, undisguised conduct, put to silence those that wait for your halting. That your enemies may be ashamed; that your friends, at present as we suppose the friends of America and of justice, may be united, both in good wishes for you and in just and kind conduct towards you; and that God in his own wise and holy time and way may subdue the hearts, divert the designs, and effectually counteract the violence of your enemies, and soon restore you and us, America and Britain, to that security and peace which we cannot but hope will, in issue, be more firmly established, even by those very means which vain ambition uses to attain its own purposes.

The little we do or can do for the mitigation of the evils you suffer, we consider rather as an act of justice, than kindness, to those that are called by Providence to stand in the post of danger, and suffer for their adherence to the common cause, from the enemies of America, the being shut out from the usual channels from which they had been wont to derive a decent competence or increasing fortune.

We are sensible that the same injustice which deprives you of your usual method of support by trade, because some tea was destroyed, by somebody in your Town, would as readily, and on the same principles, deprive us, in whose country the tea was destroyed, of the cheerful warmth of the sun and refreshing rain, till the tea was paid for, if this

were equally in its power. It attacks you, rather than us, because this they can do; in which for our caution and sympathy they express their ill will, and for our satisfaction their impotence. We rejoice in your general firmness hitherto, and would not forget to give thanks to a kind Providence that, as we trust, you have been enabled to conduct with so much prudence.

We are particularly pleased, as you declare you are determined to be very open and exact in your accounts of what you receive and how you employ it, as, with all your care, amazing pains is taken to propagate stories to the disadvantage of the Committee and Town, the extensive and very fatal consequences of which, nothing but the plainest facts can prevent.

With hearty good wishes for your welfare, and humbly commending you and ourselves, and the cause of America, to Him that has hitherto so wonderfully defeated the secret plots and open violence of our common enemies,

We subscribe your friends,

EPHRAIM HEALD,	} <i>Committee of Correspondence and Inspection for Temple.</i>
FRANCIS BLOOD,	
DAVID SPAFFORD,	
SAM'L WEBBER,	
JOHN CRAGIN,	

REPLY TO TEMPLE.

Boston, Jan. 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee for receiving Donations for the Town of Boston, acknowledge the receipt of your very generous bounty, viz. forty bushels rye, by Mr. Cragin, and in behalf of said Town return their hearty thanks to the inhabitants of the Town of Temple. We cannot but look on it as from divine influence, that the hearts and hands of our brethren are so opened, and so united in assisting this distressed Town; and we hope and believe, there are many thanksgivings going up to Him, who is the Author of all good to his creatures, and hope you will be rewarded in

temporal and spiritual blessings. Through this kindness of divine Providence, we hope we shall be enabled to persevere, and must say it is truly remarkable, the quiet submission to divine Providence there seems to be in all the friends of the common cause, notwithstanding what our cruel taskmasters have laid on us; as we think it better to bear this heavy burden for a time, than to be slaves, and our posterity forever. As to the reflections cast on the Town and the Committee, by our enemies, I am glad your worthy pastor had an opportunity of seeing for himself, and so can assure the people of Temple, that fair and open accounts are kept of all we receive, and how it is distributed, and expressed great satisfaction in it, and doubt not he has satisfied you, and we look on this present as a token of it.

I am, Gentlemen, in the name and at the desire of the Committee, your hearty well-wisher,

WM. WHITWELL, *One of the Committee.*

To Messrs. Ephraim Heald, Francis Blood, David Spafford, Sam'l Webster and John Cragin, Committee of Temple.



LETTER TO E. GERRY.

Boston, 12 January, 1775.

SIR,

Capt. Lindsey, from New York, informs the Committee that he left under your care four tons nail and bar iron, and one pipe brandy, being part of the generous donation from our benevolent, sympathizing brethren of that city, for the relief and employment of the sufferers in this Town, by the operation of the Port Bill. We do now, by order of the Committee, desire you would deliver the said iron and brandy, to Messrs. Edward Blanchard and Joseph Henderson, truckmasters, with whom we have agreed to bring the same to Town.

We are, very respectfully, Sir, your obedient, humble servants,

JOHN BROWN, } *Two of the*
PETER BOYER, } *Committee.*

To Elbridge Gerry.

LETTER FROM WEST SPRINGFIELD.

West Springfield, January 13th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

I am desired to inform you, in behalf of a number of the inhabitants of West Springfield, who, taking into consideration the unhappy and distressed situation of the Town of Boston, as suffering in the common cause, have collected and sent twenty-five head of swine, as a token of their affectionate regard to, and approbation of, the virtuous and disinterested conduct of the said Town, the same to be disposed of towards the relief of the suffering poor.

I am, in the behalf of said inhabitants, your very humble and affectionate servant and fellow-sufferer,

CHAUNCY BREWER, *Chairman.*

To the Committee or Overseers of the Poor of Boston.

REPLY TO WEST SPRINGFIELD.

Boston, January 21st, 1775.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee of Donations to acknowledge your favor of the 13th instant, and to return our hearty thanks to the inhabitants of West Springfield, for their generous donation of twenty-three head of swine, for the relief of the suffering poor of this Town, five of which, the gentlemen who had the care of them, disposed of on the road, as thinking it more for the advantage of the Town, than to drive them in, and have paid the money they produced, viz. three pounds, 18/1, lawful money. The sympathy of our friends serves to animate us, and their liberality to support us, under our sufferings in the common cause; and it gives us great pleasure to find that our conduct meets with their approbation.

The gentlemen who brought us your donation have had an opportunity of examining our books, and we flatter ourselves are satisfied with the falsity of the malicious reports

which are spread abroad to our prejudice, by those who are enemies to the liberties of America.

I am, with great respect, Sir, your most humble servant,

¹ []

To Chauncy Brewer, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of West Springfield.



LETTER FROM SALEM.

Salem, Jan. 13th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We send you by the hands of Mr. John Archer, an addition of three pounds, nineteen shillings, which, with the sum you received of Mr. John Andrews, makes ninety-one pounds, which you will please to accept.

DAVID PHIPPEN.

JNO. ANDREWS.

BENJA. WARD, Jun.

To the Committee of Donations.



LETTER FROM WELLS, ME.

Wells, January 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Previous to the recommendation of the Provincial Congress, a number of the inhabitants in the second parish in Wells, made a small collection, which they send in wood, (by the care of Capt. Eben'r Hovey,) judging that may be an article as acceptable and useful as any other at this season of the year, for the comfort of the needy and afflicted under your care.

The above we only mention as a small token of that deep affection we feel for our Capital, in their present distressed condition, on whose former open and friendly com-

¹ The signature of this letter has been cut out of the volume.

merce, we on this eastern shore more absolutely depended for support than any other part of the Province. For your sakes and for our own we prayerfully wait the kind interpositions of divine Providence, and the smiles of our gracious King, for the redress of our general grievances, and in particular, for the removal of the present obstructions to our trade with the Town of Boston.

In the mean time, the patience and firmness with which you endure so great affliction, gives us joy. May Christian patience, prudence and fortitude be equal to every future trial, and hasten the day, the most desired day of generous liberty and righteous government.

STEPHEN LARRIBEE, }
JNO. MITCHEL, } *Committee.*

To the Committee of Donations for the Poor of the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO WELLS.

Boston, February 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

I am directed by the Committee of Donations, to acknowledge the receipt of your affectionate letter, and generous donation of twenty-six and three-fourths cords of wood, by Capt. Eben'r Hovey, a necessary article, and very acceptable at this season of the year ; more especially as the call for it seems to be daily increasing amongst us. We esteem it a great smile of Providence, and desire thankfully to acknowledge it as such, that our friends and brethren in this and the neighboring Provinces, have shown such a ready disposition to help us under our difficulties, and we are much obliged to the inhabitants of the second parish in Wells, in particular, and return them our most sincere and hearty thanks, and rejoice to see that they are not only ready to sympathize with, but also willing to afford us such relief for the comfort of the needy and afflicted under our care.

The cause is common, and it gives us great pleasure to hear that you are prayerfully waiting for the kind interpositions of divine Providence for your and our relief. We

desire heartily to join with you herein, and hope that in due time we shall happily reap the fruits thereof.

We are, with respect, Gentlemen, your sincere friends and humble servants,

JNO. SOLEY, *Per order.*

To Messrs. Step'n Larabee and Jno. Mitchel, at Wells.



LETTER FROM SANDWICH.

Sandwich, Jan. 17th, 1775.

For Mr. Sam'l Adams.

SIR,

We send you by Capt. Tobey, the money contributed by the Congregational societies in this Town, for the relief of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, amounting to £19 1s. 9d. lawful money, which please to give him a receipt for. We shall only add that we wish our brethren in Boston a speedy relief from the hand of oppression, and that reward which their steady adherence in the cause of liberty ought to insure them.

We subscribe ourselves, with much respect, Gentlemen, your most humble servants,

JOS. NYE, { In behalf of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Sandwich.

REPLY TO SANDWICH.

Boston, Feb. 21, 1775.

SIR,

Your letter of the 17th of January, written in behalf of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Sandwich, came duly to hand. Capt. Tobey, the bearer, was kind enough to deliver to the Committee of this Town, appointed to receive Donations for the relief and employment of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, a charitable collection from the Congregational societies in Sandwich,

amounting to nineteen pounds and three pence, for which he has our Treasurer's receipt. I am to desire you, in the name of our Committee, to return their sincere thanks to our worthy brethren, for the kindness they have shown to those sufferers by so generous a contribution for their support under the cruel hand of oppression. It affords us abundant satisfaction to have the testimony of such respectable bodies of men, that the inhabitants of this Town are not sufferers as evil doers, but for "their steady adherence to the cause of liberty," and we cannot but persuade ourselves that the Supreme Being approves our conduct, by whose all powerful influence the British American continent hath been united, and thus far successful, in disappointing the enemies of our common liberty, in their hopes, that by reducing the people to want and hunger, they should force them to yield to their unrighteous demands.

I am, Sir, in the name of the Committee, with sincere good wishes, your friend and countryman,

SAM'L ADAMS.

To Joseph Nye, at Sandwich.



LETTER FROM CAPE ELIZABETH.

Cape Elizabeth, Jan. 18, 1775.

To the Committee of Correspondence.

GENTLEMEN,

This you will receive by Capt. Judah Dyer, by whom this District have sent about forty-eight cords of wood, as a small present to the poor sufferers at Boston. We shall assist in relieving their wants as far as our ability will admit, until that detestable Act for blocking up the harbor of Boston is repealed. We pray God it may be soon repealed.

We are, Gentlemen, your hearty friends in the cause of liberty, by order of the Committee of Correspondence,

DAVID STROUT, *Clerk.*

REPLY TO CAPE ELIZABETH.

*February 1, 1775.**Mr. David Strout, at Cape Elizabeth.*

SIR,

The kind relief you have afforded our industrious poor in your generous donation of forty-four and a half cords wood, merit our grateful acknowledgments. Though grievously oppressed, and suffering the most severe trials by a most cruel and arbitrary ministry, yet we are determined to stand firm, and hope that we shall be favored with a continuance of your friendship, which we shall ever esteem ourselves happy in maintaining, by a steady and uniform conduct. Being in haste, we only wish the Parent of the Universe may shower down the greatest blessings on our benevolent friends, and am with much esteem,

Your sincere friends and humble servants,

JNO. AVERY, *Per order Committee.*

LETTER TO WARWICK.

Boston, 18 Jan. 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

I am directed by the Committee of Donations in this Town, to acknowledge the receipt of five cattle per the bearer, Mr. Greene, and to return our hearty thanks to the generous subscribers in Warwick, for the relief of this distressed Town, and we trust their liberal donations of our friends in the Colony of Rhode Island, will be abundantly rewarded, and we hope the stand we are now making against an arbitrary and tyrannical ministry, will be to the lasting benefit of North America.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

B. AUSTIN, *Per order.**To Messrs. Sam'l Tillingtef, and Adam Gumstock, in Warwick.*

LETTER FROM FALMOUTH.

Falmouth, Casco Bay, January 19th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We now send you by Capt. Wright, fifty-seven cords of fire wood, purchased with the money which was long since contributed here, for the use of the poor and indigent in your besieged Town. As this is the charity of but a part of the Town, we hope the other part will soon be liberally disposed to send another load. We wish a concurrence of our unfortunate circumstances did not prevent our giving a more bountiful supply to those worthy patriots, who nobly persevere in patient suffering for our country's cause. As our hearts applaud their conduct, and commiserate their oppressed condition, they may depend on us that we will use our influence for a further bounty.

Imploring Heaven's blessing on their laudable endeavors to save our country from impending slavery, we are, Gentlemen, with regard, your friends and very humble servants, by order of the Committee of Correspondence,

ENOCH FREEMAN.

Committee for receiving Donations, Boston.

REPLY TO FALMOUTH.

Boston, 31st January, 1775.

Enoch Freeman, Esq., Falmouth, Casco Bay.

SIR,

Your kind favor by Capt. Wright, have received, attending your kind donation of fifty-one cords wood, which we shall apply agreeable to your intentions, which doubtless will be a great relief to our suffering poor. The sympathy manifested by our worthy brethren at Falmouth, Casco Bay, animates us, though most severely oppressed by a most cruel ministry, to stand firm and suffer still greater distresses, rather than give up our rights and privileges, even at the risk of life, and all that we hold dear. Please to accept of our grateful acknowledgments for your benevolence, and only wish it was in our power to make you an

adequate return ; however, hope that the Parent of nature and of every good, will reward you. We esteem ourselves happy in meriting your applause, and hope the Town of Boston will never forfeit your kindness.

We inclose you a printed copy of our proceedings, as also a justification of our conduct against many cruel attacks on our characters which we hope will be acceptable. We have nothing further to add, except presenting our best regards to our worthy friends who have been so liberal in their charity, and are with much esteem, your sincere friends and humble servants,

JNO. AVERY, { Per order the Committee of Donations.



LETTER FROM SPOTSYLVANIA.

*Virginia, Fred'g, Spotsylvania County,
January 23d, 1775.*

To the Overseers of the Poor of Boston.

GENTLEMEN,

By order of the Committee of this County, we inclose you bills of lading for seven hundred and thirty-six bushels and one peck of wheat, twenty-five bushels of Indian corn, three barrels of flour, and three barrels of bread, put on board the schooner Betsey, Capt. John Foster, being the contributions of this County, to the suffering poor of your Town, that could be collected in time to go by this opportunity. We cannot close this business without expressing our sympathy in the distresses of your Capital, and acknowledging the obligations of all America so justly due to the inhabitants of the Massachusetts Bay, for the noble stand they have so timely made against the infamous and tyrannical attempts of the late British Parliament.

Wishing success to so noble a work, we are, Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

CHAS. DICK.

CHAS. WASHINGTON.

GEO. THORNTON.

Per agreement, freight of the grain at 10*d.* per bushel ; flour and bread at 4/ per barrel.

REPLY TO SPOTSYLVANIA.

Boston, March, 1775.

To Messrs. Charles Dick, Charles Washington, and George Thornton, at Spotsylvania County, Virginia.

GENTLEMEN,

Your letter of the 23d of January last, directed to the Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Boston, has been laid before the Committee appointed to receive and distribute Donations for the sufferers by that cruel and unrighteous Act of the British Parliament, commonly called the Boston Port Bill. I am now in behalf of this Committee to acknowledge the receipt of seven hundred thirty-six and a quarter bushels wheat, twenty-five bushels Indian corn, three barrels flour, and three barrels bread, shipped on board the schooner Betsey, Capt. John Foster, being a very generous contribution of Spotsylvania County, in Virginia, to those sufferers.

You will be pleased, gentlemen, to return the sincere thanks of the Committee to our friends of that County, for the warm sympathy they have in this instance discovered with their distressed brethren in this Capital. Encouraged by these liberal donations, the inhabitants of this Town still endure their complicated sufferings with patience. As men, they feel the indignities which are offered to them. As citizens, they suppress their just resentment. But I trust in God, that this much injured Colony, when urged to it by extreme necessity, will exert itself at the utmost hazard in the defence of our common rights. I flatter myself that I am not mistaken, while they deprecate that necessity, they are very active in preparing for it.

I am, Gentlemen, in behalf of the Committee, your obliged and affectionate friend and countryman,

SAM'L ADAMS.



LETTER FROM NORTH PROVIDENCE.

North Providence, Jan. 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

A number of the inhabitants of North Providence, a small Town lately taken off from Providence, in the Col-

ony of Rhode Island, taking into consideration the distressed situation of the Town of Boston, who are now suffering by the cruel hand of tyranny and oppression in the glorious cause of liberty, which equally affects this Colony as well as all North America, have raised by subscription the small sum of eighteen pounds, lawful money, which you will receive as a donation by the hand of the Hon. Elisha Brown, Esq., the bearer hereof, which sum we make no doubt but will be appropriated towards such purposes as you in your wisdom judge most expedient.

We are, Gentlemen, for ourselves and by the request and in the behalf the other donors, your most humble servants,

STEPHEN JENKS.
JONA. JENKS, Jr.

To the Committee of Donations for the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO NORTH PROVIDENCE.

Boston, January 24th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Donations for the employment and support of the poor of this Town, received your favor last evening, by the hand of the Honorable Elisha Brown, Esq., and return their grateful acknowledgments for the generous donation accompanying it, from the inhabitants of the Town of North Providence, of eighteen pounds, 2s. 4½d. lawful money.

This Town is in truly distressed circumstances, struggling under the cruel hand of oppression; our industrious inhabitants reduced to such straits, as to implore that charity of our beneficent friends and brethren, which they were once in a capacity to extend to others. But we have hitherto, through the goodness of God, been supported, and we trust he will support us in the defence of the rights and privileges, not of this Town and Province only, but of every Colony in America. And we hope that day is not far distant, when every man shall sit quietly under his own vine and fig tree, and have none to make him afraid.

You may rely on our distributing this, and all other

donations, to the benevolent purposes of the donors. We refer you to Mr. Brown, for a full account of the manner of our proceedings, and the method of keeping our books, who has had an opportunity of examining them, and of satisfying himself of the falsity of the malicious reports that have been industriously propagated by the friends of tyranny and despotism.

I am, with great respect, in behalf of the Committee, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

¹ []

To Messrs. Stephen Jenks, and Jonathan Jenks, Jr. in North Providence.

Per favor the Honorable E. Brown, Esq.



LETTER FROM PROVIDENCE.

Providence, January 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Agreeable to your order I have sold all the rye and corn, one barrel flour, and one do. rye flour, and shall sell the remaining part of the donation as soon as possible, for cash, and transmit the money to you by some safe hand, as I do now, by the bearer, Mr. Nathan Angell, send you the net proceeds of the above articles, to wit;—four hundred twenty-seven and a half bushels rye, a $3/$, amounting to £64 $2/6$ —one barrel wheat flour, 2c.: 0qr.: 5lb, tare 18 a 16/6 is £1: 10: 8. 1 barrel rye flour, 2: 0: 18. Tare 23lb a 9/6 is 18/7, and 11 bushels Indian corn a $3/$, is 33/; the whole amounting to £68: 7: 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, which I hope you will receive by Mr. Angell.

N. B.—The expenses for landing and storing the rye, &c., was five dollars, which was paid in rye, and exclusive of the above quantity.

I am, with respect, Gentlemen, your friend and servant,

J. ANGELL.

The money Mr. Jeffries received Jan. 24, 1775, amounting to £69: 13: 1.

¹ The signature has been torn from the volume.

REPLY TO BARNSTABLE.

Boston, 24th January, 1775.

REV'D SIR,

Sensible of the many kind favors received from our worthy and generous benefactors of this and the other Provinces, and especially the generous donation (by the hands of Doct. Samuel Savage) of twelve pounds, 10s. 3d., from the respectable inhabitants in the East Parish of Barnstable, demands our sincerest gratitude. Be assured that notwithstanding we are suffering under the severest trials, we are determined to stand firm, relying on the great Parent of the Universe for relief in his own due time. When we reflect on the many expressions of tenderness from our worthy brethren on this wide and extensive continent, it animates us to be steady, firm, and prudent, and we esteem it an interposition of Providence that the hearts of our brethren are opened for our support, which, without their aid and assistance we must have fallen a prey to as abandoned a set of men, as are upon the face of the earth. But we hope the time is not far distant, when we shall rise superior to their villainous measures to subjugate us, and that we shall enjoy that inestimable blessing (liberty) that we have been so long contending for, and be able to transmit it entire to the latest posterity. The cruel and most barbarous Port Bill, with the many other iniquitous acts, must fall on the heads of the vile perpetrators of them, and meet with the just indignation of all good men.

The firmness and unanimity of the continent, (under Providence,) will prove salutary, and we make no doubt that if we firmly adhere to the prudent and legal measures that our worthy Congress have wisely adopted, that we shall render abortive the little, low arts of our enemies, who are exulting in the slender prospect of building their fortunes on our ruin. We must act with the greatest caution and circumspection, as they leave no stone unturned to drive us to desperation. But, if the time should come, that we can no longer act on the defensive, and are compelled to defend those rights and privileges at the risk of

life, and all that we hold dear, we shall think it our duty so to do, for death is preferable to slavery.

We herewith inclose you a printed copy of our proceedings, as also a vindication of our conduct against the many late cruel attacks on our characters, by our worthless enemies, which we hope will prove satisfactory.

With our best regards to our worthy brethren in your benevolent Parish, we are, Reverend Sir, your sincere and obliged friends and humble servants,

THOS. CRAFTS; JR., { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To the Rev'd Timo. Hilyard, at Barnstable.

Boston, January 25, 1775.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee of Donations to acknowledge the receipt of six pounds, 13s. 4d., per the hands of Mr. May, which sum was committed to his care by you as a donation from the inhabitants of the West Parish in Barnstable, for the relief of the sufferers in this Town, occasioned by the Port's being shut up, as also sixteen shillings, being a donation from the Indians, in and about said Parish, for the like benevolent and charitable purposes. These with other donations which we are from time to time receiving, are a great relief to us under our difficulties and distress, especially at this season of the year, when our numbers which call [¹] yly increasing amongst us.

You [¹ will please, Sir,] to communicate our thankful acknowledgments to our friends and brethren, the inhabitants aforesaid, for their kind and benevolent regards shown to us herein.

We are, with great regard, Sir, your most obliged, humble servants.

JNO. SOLEY, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Col. James Otis, at Barnstable.

¹ Manuscript torn.

LETTER FROM KITTERY.

Kittery, January 24th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We have some time since promoted a subscription in this Town for our poor suffering brethren in the Town of Boston, who are suffering for and in behalf of all the British inhabitants in North America ; and by means of said subscriptions and contributions, we have collected the sum of forty-one pounds, three shillings and five pence, lawful money, which sum we send by Edward Cutt, Esq. ; though a small sum, yet freely given according to our ability, and doubt not will be accepted, and applied to that good use for which the donors designed it ; the greater part of the donors apprehending it rather paying a just debt, than a gift.

We are, Gentlemen, your most humble servants,

WM. LEIGHTON,	} <i>Selectmen of Kittery.</i>
SAM'L WEEKS,	
JOHN FROST,	
BENJA. FARNALD,	
WM. LEWIS,	

To the Committee appointed for receiving the Donations for the suffering Poor in Boston.



LETTERS TO MARBLEHEAD.

Boston, 27th Jan., 1775.

SIR,

The Committee for receiving Donations for the unhappy sufferers in this distressed Town, have, in compliance with your owners and your own request, consented that your vessel may be discharged in Marblehead, and I now do, by their order, write to Col. Orne and Mr. Gerry, two principal gentlemen in that Town, who will immediately provide vessels to take in your whole cargo, that you may have all reasonable dispatch. The Committee will

cheerfully and punctually settle and pay the freight when they may have the pleasure of seeing you.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, Sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN BROWNE.

To Capt. Robt. Tompkins, Com'd schooner Dunmore, Marblehead.

Boston, 27 Jan. 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of Donations again take the liberty to apply to you, to ask your care of a cargo of grain, now in your harbor, on board the schooner Dunmore, Robert Tompkins, master, being the very generous donation of our worthy, sympathizing brethren in several Counties in Virginia, for the relief and support of the sufferers in this unhappy Town. In compliance with the request of the owner and master, the Committee have consented the vessel may be discharged in Marblehead. I am therefore to beg the favor you would provide proper vessels to take in the whole cargo, to be delivered in this Town. You will please to agree for the freight upon the best terms you may be able, and draw upon the Committee for the same, together with any other charges that may arise.

Gentlemen, I can now with pleasure assure you of the just sense the Committee entertain of your many kind offices, and am, very respectfully, Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BROWNE.

P. S.—Capt. Tompkins has on board, for the Committee, in the whole, $3,352\frac{3}{4}$ bushels grain, including 5 bushels peas, and twenty-three barrels flour.

To Messrs. Azor Orne, and Elbridge Gerry, Marblehead.



LETTER FROM BERWICK.

Berwick, Jan. 30, 1775.

To the Committee of Donations.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the request of the Provincial Congress, the Resolve or recommendation of said Congress

relative to the suffering patriots in the Town of Boston and Charlestown, has been publicly read to the congregation, in the first parish in the Town of Berwick, and the people have cheerfully contributed the small sum of money £11 6/8 which they have sent by the hands of Mr. Ichabod Goodwin, Jr. This is sent not as an act of charity, but as an act of justice, and as a token of gratitude to the good people of the aforementioned suffering Towns, for their firmness and resolution in opposing the hand of tyranny, and sacrificing their ease and affluence to preserve the invaluable rights of the people of this Colony. This is not from men of affluent fortunes, but from the industrious yeomanry of this small parish. The season of the year, which prevents such business as promotes the circulation of cash among us, forbids a larger collection, but we hope our two mites, which we of our penury have cast in, will be as acceptable as what others of their abundance have bestowed. We still depend upon your firmness and resolution as means in the hand of God of preserving the liberty and consequently the happiness of ourselves and posterity. And that you may speedily be delivered from the cruel hand of tyranny and oppression, is the constant and fervent prayer of your humble servants.

JACOB FOSTER, V. D. M., } Signed in behalf of the Congregation
in the first parish in Berwick.

REPLY TO BERWICK.

Boston, February 6, 1775.

Rev'd Mr. Jacob Foster, at Berwick.

REV. SIR,

Permit us to return you our unfeigned acknowledgments for your kind favor, attended with a benevolent donation of eleven pounds, six shillings and eight pence, for the poor of this Town, oppressed by a most cruel and unjust Act of Parliament, and who must have fallen a prey to an abandoned ministry, had it not been for our kind and sympathizing brethren in this and the other Colonies. A contribution so liberally and so cheerfully bestowed, is expressive of the most endearing friendship and tender regard, and will not fail of animating us to stand firm, and

sacrifice ease and affluence, to maintain our invaluable rights and privileges. It is from the worthy yeomanry that we expect assistance to defeat the wicked designs formed against us, and be assured, Sir, the industrious in your parish merits our highest regard and esteem. The favor they have heaped upon us, we shall never be wanting in duty to make a suitable return, and by our conduct to deserve their friendship and esteem, by a steady adherence to a firm resolution never to submit. The prospect doubtless must be agreeable, to perceive the most distinguished persons through the continent exerting themselves in our behalf, and using their utmost influence to promote frugality and industry, which are the wisest and the best measures to convince our inveterate foes on the other side the Atlantic, of their great mistakes; but if we should be obliged to make our last appeal, we hope that we shall have every needed assistance from that Being who governs the world with infinite wisdom and goodness. However, we cannot but flatter ourselves that the time is not far distant, that we shall rise superior to their wicked attempts to enslave us, and that we shall have our rights secured to us on a permanent basis, which God grant!

We herewith inclose you the proceedings of the Committee, as also a defence of our much injured characters, which we hope will be acceptable to you. Please to present our hearty thanks to your worthy parish.

We are, with great esteem, your much obliged friends and humble servants,

JOHN AVERY, JUN., { Per order of the Committee of Correspondence.



LETTER FROM NORTH BERWICK.

Berwick, North Parish, 30th Jan. 1775.

To the Committee of Donations.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the recommendation of the Provincial Congress, to afford further assistance and support to

the Towns of Boston and Charlestown, under their cruel burdens, we have by contributions collected the trifling sum of two pounds, two shillings, which is herewith transmitted by Mr. Goodwin, our delegate, to be made use of for the benefit of such as stand in need, which we desire may be considered not as the measure of our regard and concern for you and the public cause of the country, but as a small token of it ; and should there be further need, we want not a disposition to contribute our mite. I speak it in behalf of my people, and with humble confidence in Him who has planted a vine in this land, that he will not suffer it to be plucked up or trodden down by wicked oppressors. I would not forget daily to intercede in your behalf for deliverance from all your burdens and distresses, and for the restoration and establishment of the rights, liberties and privileges of the country, upon the most happy and lasting foundation, who am,

Gentlemen, your hearty friend and humble servant,

MATTHEW MERRIAM.

REPLY TO NORTH BERWICK.

Boston, Feb. 7th, 1775.

To the Rev'd Matthew Merriam, in Berwick, North Parish.

REV'D SIR,

With minds deeply impressed with the highest sense of your goodness for your kind favor of 30th January, ult., as also for the liberality you have manifested in a generous donation of two pounds, two shillings, received by the hand of our good friend Mr. Goodwin, for our suffering poor, we return you our sincere acknowledgments. We shall apply the said donation as their necessities require.

The kindness and sympathy of our worthy brethren in this and the other Colonies, towards us, sufficiently demonstrates their approbation of our conduct in this day of trial, and animates us to persevere in our steadfastness to maintain our just rights, those rights which God and nature has given us, and which no man on earth has a right to deprive us of. The cruelty and oppression extended by our once parent state to this poor devoted Town, are be-

yond expression severe, and perhaps history cannot furnish an example of the kind, even among the most barbarous nations at the earliest period. Their conduct evidently manifests that paying for the tea was not their sole motive ; they vainly imagined that by sending the cruel Port Bill, attended with a large fleet and army, we should be so amazingly intimidated that we should immediately comply with their demand, and for this reason they ventured on the other bills. But through a good Providence, their schemes have been hitherto frustrated, and the wicked attempts formed against us has had this happy tendency of uniting the hearts of this wide and extensive Continent, by the strongest ties of love and friendship, which, we flatter ourselves, will in due time prove salutary, relying with firm confidence, as you will observe, in Him who has planted a vine in this land, that he will not suffer it to be plucked up or trodden down by wicked oppressors. Be assured, Sir, your kind assurances of further tokens of your goodness, will never be obliterated from our minds, and may your kind intercessions to the God of all justice, be heard and answered.

By the last accounts from England, the American affairs would not be hurried with that rapidity as in the last wicked administration, but we were to have an impartial hearing. *Justitia fiat pereatve mundus.*

Please to tender our sincere thanks to your worthy Parish, and beg your acceptance of a printed copy of our proceedings, as also a vindication of our conduct against many cruel aspersions from our inveterate foes.

We are, with much esteem, Reverend Sir, your obliged friends and humble servants,

JOHN AVERY, JUN., { By order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.



LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

New York, Jan. 30, 1775.

John Row.

SIR,

We duly received your favor of the 5th inst., by which we observe our error in applying to you as one of the Com-

mittee for receiving the Donations for the Town of Boston. We have now to request that you will make known to such Committee the purport of our first letter, and that they may favor us with instructions to whom we may remit the moneys that are and will be coming to us from the sales of rice. In the mean while we shall be taking up such bills as may offer on Boston, and are respectfully, Sir,

Your very humble servant, for P. Livingston and selves,
CHARLES M. EVERS & Co.



LETTER FROM GLASTENBURY.

Glastenbury, Jan. 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Inclosed is a letter for Isaac Smith, Esq., and an order on him for £6 13s. 4d., which desire you will accept of for the benefit of the sufferers in Boston.

From your most obedient, humble servant,

EBEN'R PLUMMER.

To the Committee of Donations in Boston.



LETTER FROM CHESTER TOWN.

Chester Town, Maryland, January 30, 1775.

To David Jeffries, Esq., one of the Committee of Donations.

GENTLEMEN,

Your very polite letter of the 6th October last, was delivered us by Capt. Harden, of the schooner Endeavour, and we are happy to hear that our donation arrived at a time so seasonable for your distressed poor. Capt. Harden's bill for £4: 10, sterling, on his owner, Mr. Braddock, was duly honored. We determined on the receipt of your

favor to remit you the sum you had advanced to Capt. Harden, but have not had it in our power to procure a bill on your Town, until a few days ago, and that not to the full amount of your advance.

Herein we send you Robt. Hacford Byrnes's draft on Nathaniel Coffin, Esq., for 5 : 15 : 6, sterling, which you will please to apply to the credit of the money advanced Capt. Harden, and am, with respect,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS SMYTH,
Chairman of the Committee.



LETTER FROM C. HIGGINS.

Lyme, Jan. 31, 1775.

Col. Jackson.

SIR,

As there has been gentlemen chosen in this Town for to make a collection for the Town of Boston, but it seems to be in slow motion, my father and my brother and myself concluded to take this opportunity to send in our mite by the post, which we should be glad if you would receive the same, and give it to your Committee for the use of our poor brethren in Boston. My father desires to be remembered to you and all friends there.

This from your humble servant,

CHRIS'N HIGGINS.

P. S.—My father sent £ 2
My brother Jos. 1 16
I have sent 1 10
—————
£ 5 6

N. B.—I did not know who was the Standing Committee, or I should sent to them.

C. HIGGINS.

Capt. Jos. HIGGINS.
Mr. Jos. HIGGINS, JUN.
Capt. CHRISTIAN HIGGINS.

REPLY TO CAPTAIN HIGGINS.

Boston, Feb. 7, 1775.

SIR,

By the hands of Col. Jackson, we received a kind donation from your worthy father, your brother Joseph, and yourself, amounting to five pounds, six shillings, lawful money, for the use of your poor brethren in Boston.

The Committee of Donations, who are appointed the distributors of those charities, return their sincere thanks to the benevolent donors. The conduct of the said Committee respecting the monies, &c. with which they are intrusted, may be collected from the two printed publications they have been called upon to make since they engaged in this important business. We now inclose them, not doubting they will afford satisfaction to all the friends of true constitutional liberty.

Our troubles are many, our oppressions great, our opposition mighty, and our conflict sharp, but patience and fortitude have been communicated from above, and if God shall continue to favor our cause, which we indeed think is a common cause, and the cause of truth and righteousness, we shall finally rise superior to those who, we think, are seeking the destruction of our civil and religious liberties. It was a frequent saying of the late venerable Doctor Sewall's "That civil and religious liberty always go together."

The Christian sympathy our fellow countrymen have expressed from time to time in their letters, and their generous donations for the relief and employment of the poor in this Town, suffering by means of the Boston Port Bill, greatly refresh our spirits, and encourages us to persevere in the noble cause, and by the divine blessing we may hope for the desired success.

I am, with due respects to your father and brother, Sir, your obliged friend and humble servant,

D. J., { Per order of the Committee of Donations.

To Capt. Christian Higgins.

LETTER TO N. APPLETON.

Boston, Jan. 31, 1775.

Mr. Nath'l Appleton.

DEAR SIR,

The bearer is Capt. Ephm. Linnell, master of a sloop from Eastham, South Parish, who brings us fifty bushels corn, being a donation from our benevolent, sympathizing brethren there, for the relief of the unhappy sufferers in this Town. Should there be any opportunity of sending the corn to Town, the Committee wish you would do it; if not, you will please to store it with Mr. Malloone, the miller, there to wait their order. The freight you will also please to settle with, and pay the master, which the Committee will reimburse you, together with any other charges that may arise.

I am, with esteem and regard, dear Sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN BROWN, *Per order.*

P. S.—You will be kind enough to write a letter to the South Parish in Eastham, to return them the thanks of the Committee for their charitable donation.



LETTER TO EASTHAM.

Boston, Feb. 1, 1775.

SIR,

The Committee of Donations for this Town has received, by Capt. Eph. Linnell, fifty-two and a half bushels corn, which he informs us is a present from you and several others of the South Parish in Eastham, to the poor of this Town, put out of employment and deprived of the means of subsistence, by the operation of the cruel and oppressive Boston Port Bill. We receive it not only as a proof of the generosity and benevolence, which always has, and we trust always will characterize this people, but

a confirmation of that harmony of sentiment respecting the rights of mankind and the special privileges that this Province have an undoubted claim to, which excites the admiration of all. We shall endeavor to apply this and all other donations agreeable to what we suppose to be the benevolent intentions of the generous donors, viz., by relieving the distresses of such as are destitute of employ, and encourage their hearts firmly to resist every encroachment upon our rights and charter privileges, which we think it our indispensable duty to do, not only for our own happiness, but as natural guardians to posterity.

Please to present our unfeigned esteem to your fellow contributors, and be assured we are your and their friends and fellow countrymen.

N. APPLETON, } By order of the Committee of Donations.

To Mr. Thos. Paine.

Mem. There was 8/ which Capt. Linnell paid besides the corn, and is part of the donation from Eastham. Feb. 8, paid 8/ to David Jeffries, by N. Appleton.



LETTER FROM ORNE AND GERRY.

Marblehead, Feb. 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

In answer to your favor of the 27th ult., we have contracted with Capt. Knot Martin, Jun., and his brother John, to carry up all the grain per Capt. Tompkins, excepting the corn, at 9s. old tenor per bushel. The corn was put on board for 468½ bushels, and when it is delivered, the quantity which it measures shall be endorsed on your order, and the same inclosed to you. It gives us great satisfaction to see the continuance of the continental liberality to our suffering brethren of Boston, and is our sincere desire that they soon be redeemed from oppression.

We are, respectfully, Gentlemen, your most humble servants,

ORNE AND GERRY.

To the Committee of Donations for Boston.

LETTER FROM CECIL COUNTY.

Maryland, Cecil County, Feb. 2d, 1775.

To the Committee of Donations.

GENTLEMEN,

There will be in a short time collected in this County between 3 and 400 £ for the poor of Boston. You will please to acquaint us whether you will order it in the hands of a merchant in Baltimore Town, Philadelphia, New York, or your City, and send an order to us for that purpose, properly authenticated.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants,

JNO. VEAZEY, Jun.

WM. RUMSEY.

JOSEPH GILPIN.

JNO. D. THOMPSON.

JNO. VEAZEY, the third.

STEPHEN HYLAND.

REPLY TO CECIL COUNTY.

Boston, March 15th, 1775.

To Mr. Jno. Veazey, Jr., and other Gentlemen, the Committee of Correspondence in Cecil County, Maryland.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee appointed by this Town to receive and distribute Donations made for the relief and employment of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, have received your favor of the 2d of February, directed to the Committee of Correspondence of Boston, whereby you acquaint them that a collection is making by the gentlemen of Cecil County, in Maryland, for those sufferers, and desire to be informed in what way it will be most agreeable to have it remitted to this place. As Mr. Sam'l Purviance, of Baltimore Town, has already obliged us by his kind offices of this kind, the Committee have asked the further favor of him, (if it be most agreeable to you,) that this generous donation may be remitted through his hands.

I am, with sincere regard for our sympathizing brethren

in your County, in behalf of the Committee, Gentlemen,
your obliged and affectionate friend and countryman,

S. ADAMS.



LETTER FROM PORTSMOUTH.

Portsmouth, Feb. 2d, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We have now the pleasure to transmit to you, by Mr. Noble, the post, the two hundred pounds some time since voted by this Town for the poor of Boston.

I am, Sir, in behalf of the Selectmen, your most humble servant,

SAMUEL CUTTS.

REPLY TO PORTSMOUTH.

Boston, Feb. 6, 1775.

SIR,

This day, by the hands of Mr. John Noble, the Committee of Donations received the generous benefaction of two hundred pounds, lawful money, from our worthy and sympathizing brethren of Portsmouth, in New Hampshire. The grateful acknowledgments of the Committee are hereby rendered to them. They may be assured the same will be disposed of agreeable to the charitable intent of our benefactors. Our hands are strengthened and our hearts much encouraged by the liberalities of our friends, to persevere in the sharp conflict to which we are appointed. The cause in which we are exerting ourselves, is the cause of North America, and we trust the cause of truth and righteousness, the cause of true constitutional liberty, though otherwise formed by the abettors of tyranny and slavery. We therefore humbly hope that our gracious God will favor and maintain this righteous cause, and in his own time and way give us occasion to rejoice in his salvation. Our humble and thankful praises are due to him for the

remarkable and kind interpositions of his providence in our favor hitherto. He hath promised that none who wait for him shall be ashamed. The inclosed printed papers will show that the Committee are called to pass through bad as well as good report.

In behalf of the Committee, I am, Sir, your very obliged, humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES.

To Sam. Cutts, Esq., and others, Selectmen of Portsmouth, in New Hampshire.



LETTER FROM PAXTON.

Paxton, February 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Although we have not sent any relief to the distressed inhabitants of Boston, we have not been unmindful of their case, (but perhaps you would think otherwise, if you was to judge our dispositions by our name,) and have sent part of our subscription by Mr. Clemmons, in grain, corn, &c., and shall endeavor to send the remainder in grain or money as soon as we have an opportunity, which in the whole will be but a small pittance, but perhaps equal to our abilities; and if matters are not settled in the spring, I hope we shall have hearts to make further contributions.

Your humble servant,

WILLARD MORSE.



LETTER FROM ROBERT TOMPKINS.

Marblehead, 6th February, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

My son, Christopher Tompkins, the bearer hereof, brings an order on you from Col. Cary, for fifty-six pounds, fifteen shillings and 9*d*. I understand the order drawn on one for

corn, amounted to forty odd bushels more than I received in Virginia. He has with him a list of what I received, which I dare say has held out, though [it] was taken from me without measuring, &c. I delivered all the corn per your order, which was eight bushels short, which was damaged. My son has sixty firkins of butter, as good as I ever saw. Could you contrive the sale of it for him, I should esteem it a particular favor. Have you any commands, I would gladly obey them, and am, Gentlemen,

Your humble servant,

ROBERT TOMPKINS.



LETTER FROM BROOKFIELD.

Brookfield, February 6, 1775.

To the Committee of Donations.

GENTLEMEN,

The bearer, Mr. Ayers, will deliver you 30 bushels rye, 14 do. Indian corn, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel beans, and 18 cheeses, weight 224 lbs., and two dollars in cash, which I received of the inhabitants of the second precinct in Brookfield, for the suffering poor of Boston, and is the whole that is brought in. There is not a man in this place but wishes you success, and are ready to lend you their assistance to the last extremity.

I am your very humble servant,

JEDU BALDWIN, *Committee.*



LETTER FROM EXETER.

GENTLEMEN,

It gives us peculiar satisfaction that we are the happy instruments of conveying relief to the distressed. We send you by the bearer hereof, Mr. Carlton, one hundred pounds, which sum was unanimously and cheerfully voted by this Town for our suffering brethren in Boston. The

cause for which you now suffer, we esteem the common cause of all America; your prudence and fortitude we admire. That you may be assisted by all the Colonies in the present glorious struggle for liberty, and endued with wisdom and patience to persevere to the end, is the desire and hearty prayer of your sincere friends.

I have the honor, Gentlemen, in behalf of the Selectmen of Exeter, to subscribe myself your most humble servant,

SAMUEL BROOKS.

New Hampshire, Exeter, 6th February, 1775.

REPLY TO EXETER.

Boston, February 8, 1775.

SIR,

Our worthy friend Mr. Carlton, has just now called in and left with me one hundred pounds lawful money, a generous donation from the patriotic inhabitants of Exeter, for their suffering brethren in Boston. You will please to tender the thanks of the Committee of Donations to our kind benefactors, for this mark of their Christian sympathy and affection. Their approbation of the past conduct of this greatly oppressed and distressed metropolis, affords us great satisfaction, but especially the tender and benevolent sentiments expressed in your letter. Prudence and fortitude have doubtless been exhibited, but humility becomes us, and our thankful acknowledgments are due to God, from whom alone every good gift and every perfect gift is derived, and on Him alone we must constantly depend for all that wisdom, patience and fortitude, we need in this day of sore trial. By his help and favor we shall persevere, and in the end see the happy accomplishment of all our desires. We hope for the continuance of the prayers, countenance and assistance of our friends. We cannot doubt it, since they unitedly consider the cause as common.

Yours and others, our friends' donations, will be applied agreeable to the intent of the charitable donors. Printed accounts of the conduct of the Committee are now inclosed,

and I trust will give satisfaction to all the friends of truth and righteousness.

I am, Sir, your obliged friend and humble servant,

DAVID JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Samuel Brooks, Esq.



LETTER FROM NEW CASTLE.

New Castle, Feb. 6, 1775.

To Mr. David Jeffries,

SIR,

I take the liberty to address this to you, as you have subscribed a letter per order of the Committee of Donations now before me, dated the 25th of August last, and directed to the Committee of Correspondence of the County of New Castle, and I am to inform you that Nicholas Van Dyke, Esq., and myself, were appointed to receive the donations of the people of this County for the relief of the poor of Boston, and that we have now in our hands upwards of nine hundred dollars, which we have endeavored to remit to you by way of bills to be drawn by mercantile persons in Philadelphia, who transact business with your Colony, and were safe hands; but upon strict inquiry, we can find no one amongst them willing to draw any bills for some time to come, lest they should distress their correspondents by draughts too early for the season of business. Upon this disappointment we had thoughts of purchasing English bills; but on reflection doubted whether you might not be losers by the exchange; therefore I must request the advice and directions of your Committee as to the most speedy and acceptable mode of remittance. Perhaps some amongst your townsmen may with convenience give orders to their correspondents at Philadelphia to draw for the amount of our small sum, which it is hoped will not come to you out of season, though late. You may be assured that it is from a people who sincerely sympathize with you in your distresses, and are anxious for your relief. Please to present my compli-

ments to Messrs. Cushing, Adams's and Paine, and I am,
with esteem,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE READ.

REPLY TO NEW CASTLE.

Boston, Feb. 24, 1775.

To Mr. Geo. Read, at New Castle on Delaware,

SIR,

By your letter of the 6th instant, directed to Mr. David Jeffries, the Committee of this Town appointed to receive and distribute the donations made for the employment and relief of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, are informed that a very generous collection has been made by the inhabitants of the County of New Castle on Delaware, and that there is in your hands upwards of nine hundred dollars for that charitable purpose. The care you have taken, with our worthy friend Nicholas Vandyke, Esq., in receiving these contributions, and your joint endeavors to have them remitted in the safest and most easy manner, is gratefully acknowledged by our Committee; and they have directed me to request that you would return their sincere thanks to the people of New Castle County, for their great liberality towards their fellow subjects in this place who are still suffering under the hand of oppression and tyranny. It will, I dare say, afford you abundant satisfaction to be informed that the inhabitants of this Town, with the exception only of a contemptible few, appear to be animated with an inextinguishable love of liberty. Having the approbation of all the sister Colonies, and being thus supported by their generous benefactions, they endure the most severe trials, with a manly fortitude which disappoints and perplexes our common enemies. While a great continent is thus anxious for them, and constantly administering to their relief, they can even smile with contempt on the feeble efforts of the British administration to force them to submit to tyranny, by depriving them of the usual means of subsistence. The people of

this Province, behold with indignation a lawless army posted in its capital, with a professed design to overturn their free constitution. They restrain their just resentments, in hopes that the most happy effects will flow from the united applications of the Colonies for their relief.

May Heaven grant that the councils of our sovereign may be guided by wisdom, that the liberties of America may be established, and harmony restored between the subjects in Britain and the Colonies.

I am, your very obliged friend and humble servant,

SAM'L ADAMS.



LETTER FROM MONTREAL.

Montreal, 9th February, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Please to accept with this the small tribute of a few English inhabitants of this Town, who [are] duly sensible of the distressed situation of their countrymen generously struggling in the cause of American liberty; and as it is out of our power to co-operate with you effectually, from our situation, so it is our duty herewith to assure you we sincerely sympathize with you in your oppression. The common ties of gratitude ought to have stimulated the Canadians of this Town to make some return for the assistance they received from you, when fire brought distress upon them; for as to liberty, and the excellence of our constitution, they are entire strangers, and therefore have adopted a conduct professedly to counteract every effort of ours to ward off slavery itself, which now is daily so nearly approaching to us, and unless we are redressed will involve us in the common loss of every thing an Englishman ought to hold most dear. All who reflect upon the present situation of affairs between Great Britain and the Colonies, must look upon you, in a particular manner, as the advocates of American liberty in general, and, as such, are entitled to the most grateful acknowledgments of all her sons. All

we can offer at present is our sincere prayers and hearty wishes for your success, and remain your sincere friends,

JAMES PRICE.

ALEX'R HAY.

To the members of the Committee of Donations for the Town of Boston.

Inclosed you have Mr. John Torrey's receipt for £100. 4. lawful money.

REPLY TO MONTREAL.

Boston, March 15, 1775.

Messrs. James Price and Alexander Hay, at Montreal.

GENTLEMEN,

So handsome a donation as £100. 4/, accompanied by such an animating letter from our brethren at Montreal, cannot fail to excite the warmest gratitude in the breast of every one who wishes prosperity and freedom to his country. The Committee to whom your letter comes directed, beg leave (as well on their own account as in the name and behalf of every virtuous man in the Town, more especially of the many thousands who are actually feeling the miseries occasioned by the Boston Port Bill) to offer you their most unfeigned thanks for this convincing proof of your sympathy for the distresses of your fellow-countrymen, and for your firm, disinterested attachment to the rights of your country. It affords singular pleasure to every friend of virtue to find such enlarged and generous sentiments as dictated your letter, discovering themselves in places where the utmost diligence and most wicked devices have been made use of to extinguish them. The religion lately established in Canada, is but too well calculated to banish every idea of freedom, and to familiarize the mind to slavery. But your letter is an agreeable instance how tenacious men are of their rights, when they clearly understand them. We wish most heartily that sentiments like yours may be diffused throughout your widely extended Province, to the utter extinction of every imposition, whether civil or religious. Your numbers are great, and it is of course important to us whether you are engaged

for or against us. The decision of the present controversy between Britain and the Colonies will give happiness or misery to America for *years*, perhaps for centuries. Unanimity and firmness form the only anchor on which we depend. And we have the strongest assurances that can be given, that the whole continent see with the same eyes and are actuated by one soul. To war with brethren, must be shocking to every brave, every humane mind; but if brethren and fellow subjects will suffer themselves to be instruments in the hands of tyrants to *stab our constitution*, every tender idea must be forgot, and they must be repelled with that heroic spirit which open enemies have experienced.

Our advocates are many, both in Europe and America, but the importance of our prosperity makes it a duty to solicit, with earnestness, for all the assistance and all the strength which the continent can give.

The inhabitants of Montreal have done worthily. May Heaven reward them; and while life lasts, the memory of their kindness will never be effaced from the bosoms of the Committee of Donations.

JOSEPH WARREN, *Per order.*



REPLY TO BEVERLY.

Boston, 9 Feb. 1775.

To Benj. Jones, Esq., at Beverly.

SIR,

The kind favors we receive from our worthy friends in this, and the other Colonies, invigorates our spirits, and demands our sincerest gratitude; and in an especial manner the generous donations received by the hand of our good friend Mr. Joseph How, from our benevolent brethren in Beverly. We esteem it a great interposition of Providence, that the hearts of our brethren are so liberally disposed to relieve the necessity of our industrious poor, who are now suffering under the most cruel oppression; and who, without your aid and assistance, must have fallen. But from

the unanimity in the Province and continent, we flatter ourselves that the schemes of wicked and designing men will prove abortive, and their villainy fall with tenfold vengeance on their own heads. We have hitherto, thanks to the kind Author of nature, baffled their feeble attempts, by a firm and steady adherence to the cause of our country; and while we have the approbation of good men, we shall persevere. We are exceedingly rejoiced that the plan of Union has made such a rapid progress through this wide and extensive continent, and that there is such a harmony; but at the same time, it is not at all surprising, when we consider the design of it, viz: to preserve our invaluable rights and privileges, consequently every thing worth contending for, and for which every friend to their country seems determined to risk their all.

We cannot help again and again expressing our sincerest pleasure on the united sentiments of our brethren in this Province, who have nobly and generously exerted themselves in our behalf, which will not fail of making the deepest impressions on our minds, and in an especial manner hope we shall always merit a place you have given us in your esteem; and may our friendship be as lasting as life, shall be the sincerest prayer of, Dear Sir,

Your much obliged friend and humble servant,

JNO. AVERY, Jr., { Per order the Committee of Donations.



LETTER TO GEORGETOWN.

Boston, Feb. 9, 1775.

To the First Parish in Georgetown.

GENTLEMEN,

Your kind donation of twenty-two pounds, 14/8, lawful money, per the hands of Mr. McCobb, we duly received, who also informs us of your further generous intentions towards the poor of this Town, (who are more immediate sufferers by reason of the late cruel acts of Parliament,) for which you have the thanks of this Committee. We

cannot but take notice of the visible hand of Providence, not only in the happy union of this Province, but of the continent, also; and that the hearts of our brethren sympathize with us under our distressed circumstances, and so cheerfully contribute towards our relief. We wish them to be rewarded in this world, and in the world to come with life eternal. May we all be united in our fervent prayers to the great Governor of the universe, that we may wisely improve this dispensation of Providence, and in due time have our privileges restored, and continued to the latest posterity.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JONA. MASON.



LETTER FROM WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

Westmoreland County, Virginia, 10th Feb. 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure of inclosing a bill of lading for one thousand and ninety-two bushels of grain, furnished by this County for the use of our distressed friends and fellow subjects, the poor of Boston. The universal opinion entertained here, of the real wisdom and firmness with which your unjustly oppressed Town has defended the common rights of British America, as well as its own, cannot fail to continue it the assistance and support of this place, and we doubt not but that the same just sense of the sufferings, wisdom and spirit of Boston, will secure it the united friendship and support of all North America. The bearer, Capt. Sam'l Leighton, is desired to bring with him your receipt, or that of any Committee that may be appointed, for distribution of these supplies, that we may be certain here of this contribution having reached its proper destination.

My most earnest wishes, gentlemen, are for the speedy restoration of your and the general rights of America, which have been violated with so high and arbitrary a hand. Should any important intelligence from Great Brit-

ain, concerning America, have reached you, I should be glad to be favored with it by return of the bearer.

I am, Gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. John Hancock, the Hon. Thom's Cushing, and Sam'l Adams, Esq., Boston.

REPLY TO WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

Boston, 21 March, 1775.

To Jno. Augustine Washington, Esq.

SIR,

I have before me your letter of the 10th of February, directed to Mr. Hancock, Mr. Cushing and myself, inclosing a bill of lading for one thousand and ninety-two bushels of grain, being a generous donation sent by the inhabitants of Westmoreland County, in Virginia, to the sufferers in this Town by the Boston Port Bill. Soon after that barbarous edict arrived, our inhabitants had notice of the kind intentions of our brethren of the other Colonies, towards them, and they appointed a Committee to receive and distribute such donations as should be made. I have their direction to request that you would be pleased to return their grateful acknowledgments to our worthy friends in your County, for this very liberal contribution, and to assure them that it will be disposed of agreeable to their benevolent design.

Your candid opinion of the inhabitants of this Town, as having some share in defending the common rights of British America, cannot but be very flattering to them, and it will excite in them a laudable ambition, by their future conduct, to merit the continuance of it. They are unjustly oppressed, but, by the smiles of Heaven and the united friendship and support of all North America, the designs of our enemies to oblige them to make base compliances, to the injury of our common cause, have been hitherto frustrated. They bear repeated insults of the grossest kind, not from want of the feelings of just resentment, or spirit enough to make ample returns, but from principles

of sound policy and reason. Put your enemy in the wrong, and keep him so, is a wise maxim in politics, as well as in war. They consider themselves as connected with a great continent, deeply interested in their patient sufferings. They had rather, therefore, forego the gratification of revenging affronts and indignities, than prejudice that all important cause which they have so much at heart, by precipitating a crisis. When they are pushed by clear necessity for the defence of their liberties, to the trial of arms, I trust in God, they will convince their friends and their enemies, of their military skill and valor. Their constant prayer to God is, to prevent such necessity; but they are daily preparing for it. I rejoice with you, Sir, in most earnestly wishing for the speedy and full restoration of the rights of America, which are violated with so high and arbitrary a hand, and am, in behalf of the Committee, with great respect,

Your obliged and affectionate friend and countryman,

SAM'L ADAMS.

P. S.—Our last accounts from Great Britain, are of the 19th December.



LETTER FROM LA CHINIEY.

La Chiniey, 11th Feb. 1775.

Mr. David Jeffries.

SIR,

I was last fall favored with your letter per Capt. Bray, (in behalf of the Committee for the reception of Donations for the Town of Boston,) acknowledging the receipt of a small quantity of wheat, shipped by Capt. Howes, for the distressed poor of your unhappy place, which letter have only time to acquaint you I shew to the different subscribers, and was very satisfactory to them all. The glorious stand the inhabitants of the Town of Boston have made in so good a cause, renders them the just objects of admiration to their greatest enemies, and must be a subject

of honor and praise to the latest posterity. Our (single) press, in this Province, is under such restraints that it is impossible to expose any thing in the papers, to open the eyes of these poor deluded people.

I sincerely wish it was in my power to give much greater proofs of my real attachment to the cause in which *my oppressed fellow townsmen* are engaged, than I have yet been able to, but, depend I shall miss no opportunity that may hercafter offer.

I have the honor to be, with due respect, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONAS CLARK MINOT.



LETTER FROM LITTLETON.

Littleton, 13th February, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

By the bearer, I send as per amount inclosed, and desire you will send a receipt, (as all have some enemies.) I wish the donation had been larger; but our principal men give nothing. You have many friends in this Town, but are not able to do much for you. I would have you put in the papers, received so much from Littleton, as a few of us would be glad to support the credit of the Town.

I am, wishing you a speedy deliverance from all your difficulties,

Your most humble servant,

ROBERT HARRIS.

To the Committee for receiving Donations at Boston.

REPLY TO LITTLETON.

Boston, Feb. 16th, 1775.

Mr. Robt. Harris.

SIR,

The Committee of Donations have directed me to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 13th inst., as also the sum of four pounds, 3/0½, twenty-six and a quarter bushels of rye, one handkerchief, half pound of pinks flowers, and the carting the rye to this place, being the dona-

tion of a number of the inhabitants of Littleton, raised by subscription for the kind and benevolent purpose of relieving the distressed sufferers in this Town, occasioned by the shutting up the Port. We are greatly indebted to our many and generous friends for the assistance afforded to us in this day of our distress, and would particularly return our sincere and hearty thanks to the charitable and benevolent subscribers above mentioned, and shall not fail of publishing it agreeable to your desire.

We are, with respects, your obliged friend and humble servant,

JNO. SOLEY, *Per order.*



LETTER FROM HATFIELD.

To Mr. Sam'l Adams, Chairman of the Committee for receiving and distributing Donations for the relief of the suffering poor in Boston, &c.

SIR,

In the name and behalf of the friends of liberty in the Town of Hatfield, we herewith send you part of the collection which we have made for our suffering friends and countrymen in our once happy and flourishing metropolis. We send it as a tribute due to the constitution of our country, and for an encouragement to you to persevere in your perilous duty. Were our numbers and abilities equal to our sincere wishes, you should long since have been relieved from the burdens and distresses brought upon you by the unparalleled cruelty and oppression of the Port Bill. We sensibly feel and resent the indignity put upon you by an arbitrary ministry and Parliament. We view the attack made upon you as a blow aimed at the vitals of this loyal Colony. You have become the butt of ministerial indignation, from your firm and determinate resistance of the encroachments of despotic power. We consider you, notwithstanding the calumnies of your and our enemies, as martyrs for the laws and liberties of your country; first *devoted*, because first in the manly struggle. We should esteem it an honor to be thought your firm and unshaken friends in this contest, like those which heretofore have been the establishment, defence and security of the

rights of every free state since the birth of time—a contest with tyrants—a contest in which, by the protection of Almighty God, we hope to be willing, when called, to hazard our all in this life for the maintenance of those privileges, civil and sacred, with which he hath intrusted us, and which are now invaded by the iron hand of oppression. We think that the firmness, the union, the constancy and perseverance of the body of the people in this town and neighborhood may be relied on. The attempts of court writers, and their abettors, to dishearten and divide, are seen and despised, and under God we hope to be of good courage in the defence of our religion, our wives, our children, our little ones, and the estates with which we are invested. Every new attack, every reinforcement of the army of our oppressors, inspires our hearts with additional ardor.

We are daily more and more convinced of the ambitious views of those wicked men who are attempting to parcel out our properties amongst themselves and their adherents; and until we are convinced that the doctrine of implicit obedience and absolute subjection to the will of rulers, is a doctrine of God, we humbly resolve to acknowledge no master superior to our constitution. Our hearts, our hands, our purses are with you in this righteous cause. Brethren, be of good courage, persevere to do and to suffer for your country. Faint not under the threatenings and violence of bloody men. We trust that He who is mighty to save, whose ears are open to the cries of the oppressed, will in due time arise and plead our cause, and carry headlong all the evil devices of our subtle and relentless enemies.

Brethren, our hearts' desire is to live or die with you in the defence of what we hold so dear and sacred to all free Americans.

We are, worthy Sir, your friend and fellow sufferers,

DAVID WAIT,	}	Committee of the Town of Hatfield, for making Collections for the Poor of the Towns of Boston and Charlestown, suffer- ing by the Port Bill.
ELEAZER ALLES,		
JAMES POTTER,		
DAN'L WHITE,		
SETH MUZZEY,		

Donation £12: 15: 3, cash. By the hands of Mr. Nath'l Searl, Hatfield,
February 14th, 1775.

LETTER FROM FREDERICK TOWN.

*Frederick Town, Frederick County,
Maryland, 17th Feb. 1775.*

To the Hon'ble Thos. Cushing, Esq.

SIR,

We, the Committee for the middle part of Frederick County, Maryland, have this day forwarded £200 currency, to Messrs. William Lux and Samuel Purviance, of Baltimore, who are directed to forward the same to you for the relief of the poor of your place, either in specie or bills, as may appear to them most advisable. A line from you acknowledging the receipt of this money, will oblige the Committee, as it will serve to convince the people from whom it was collected, that it has been applied to its proper use.

Signed per order and in behalf of the Committee,

JOHN HANSON, *President.*

REPLY TO FREDERICK TOWN.

Boston, March 15th, 1775.

To Mr. Jno. Hanson, in Frederick Town, Maryland.

SIR,

I am to acknowledge your letter of the 17th of February last, directed to Mr. Cushing, who is a member of the Committee appointed by this Town to receive and distribute the donations from our friends to the sufferers by the Act of Parliament, commonly called the Boston Port Bill, and to acquaint you that agreeable to your directions, Mr. Sam'l Purviance, Jr., has remitted, in a bill of exchange, the sum of two hundred pounds, your currency, being a contribution from the gentlemen of the Middle Division of Frederick County, in Maryland, for that charitable purpose. You will be pleased to return the hearty thanks of our Committee to those gentlemen for this generous donation, and to assure them that it will be applied to its proper use.

It will doubtless afford them satisfaction to be informed that their brethren in this place endure the sufferings inflicted upon them by that unrighteous and barbarous edict, with patience and fortitude, and that they will continue to bear oppression, and count it all joy so to do, rather than stain their own reputation by a base compliance with the demands of arbitrary power.

With very great regard, I am, in behalf of the Committee, your obliged and affectionate friend and countryman,

S. ADAMS, *Chairman.*

[Per post.]



LETTER TO SHREWSBURY.

Boston, Feb. 18, 1775.

Capt. Ezra Beaman.

SIR,

Permit us to return, through you, our unfeigned thanks to the worthy inhabitants in the North Parish, Shrewsbury, for the very acceptable and generous donation of fifty-three bushels rye and corn, for the distressed inhabitants of this poor, devoted Town, who are now groaning under the iron rod of oppression. The kind reliefs afforded us by our brethren in this and the other Colonies, the harmony subsisting through this wide and extensive continent, actuate us to maintain a steady and firm conduct through every trial, (though ever so severe,) and a determination in us to risk even life itself to defend our just rights and privileges. The wicked designs of our enemies have hitherto, through divine goodness, been baffled, and may they meet with the just indignation of a much injured people, both on this and the other side of the Atlantic, is our sincere prayer; and we flatter ourselves the time is not far distant, that tenfold vengeance will fall on the vile perpetrators of this more than horrid barbarity, in their vain attempts of depriving us the means of subsistence. However, we esteem it a kind interposition of Providence, that the hearts of our brethren are opened so liberally for our

reliefs, which without their assistance we must have fallen a prey to a wicked and abandoned ministry.

We now inclose you the proceedings of our Committee, as also a vindication of our much injured characters, which we hope will be acceptable. Please to present our best regards to the worthy inhabitants of Shrewsbury, and are, with much esteem, your friends and humble servants,

JNO. AVERY, } *Per order of*
 } *Committee.*



REPLY TO NORTHBOROUGH.

Boston, Feb. 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Though however grievous the Port Bill and the many other oppressive Acts are to this poor devoted Town, yet the kindness and sympathy manifested by our brethren on this continent, and particularly by our respectable friends in Northborough, demands our sincerest gratitude, and will animate us to persevere even under more severe trials. The kind relief afforded us by our worthy brethren, gives us a convincing proof that our conduct merits their approbation; and while we have your sanction, we shall not do anything unworthy the cause we are engaged in, but continue firm and unshaken, and if we should be obliged to make our last appeal, we make no doubt of having the support of the whole continent. The wicked schemes formed against us by an abandoned ministry, have met hitherto with little success. They vainly imagined that we should be intimidated, when they sent us the cruel Port Bill, attended with a formidable fleet and army, but the contrary effect is evident. Our spirits have arose in proportion to the many insults we have received by that cruel hand of power, and we cannot help esteeming it a great interposition of divine Providence, that one soul actuates this wide and extensive continent, and the greatest harmony prevails, and a determination to defend those rights which God and nature has given us, at the hazard of life. The plan of the present ministry needs no comment; their

iniquitous designs are plain and evident; that should they succeed, which God forbid, slavery would be the consequence, this good land would be divided into lordships, and instead of being masters, we should be servants to as an abandoned set of men as the earth ever produced. Our enemies leave no stone unturned to sow dissensions and create animosities among the different Towns in this Province; therefore it is incumbent on us to guard against their base attempts, and firmly unite in one glorious struggle, relying on that Being who governs the universe with infinite wisdom and goodness, to relieve us in his own due time.

We herewith inclose you the proceedings of our Committee, as also a vindication of our much injured characters, which we hope will prove acceptable. Our good friend Mr. Gillam Bass, who presented us with your generous donation, has examined our books, and to him we refer you for particulars, and hope the information he will be pleased to give you will be sufficient to erase from your minds the impressions made by our worthless enemies.

With our best regards presented to the worthy inhabitants of Northborough, we are, with great esteem, Gentlemen, your obliged friends and humble servant,

JNO. AVERY, JR., { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.

To Messrs. Gillam Bass, Hen'y Gascheth, and Timo. Brigham, of Northborough.



LETTER FROM SUTTON.

Sutton, February 20th, 1775.

To the Committee of Donations for the Town of Boston.

GENTLEMEN,

These may inform you that the Town of Sutton has made a small collection for the distressed poor of the Towns of Boston and Charlestown, and desire you would write to us, when and where we shall convey it. From your friends and fellow-sufferers,

WILLIS HALL, { In behalf the Committee of Dona-
tion for said Town of Sutton.

REPLY TO SUTTON.

*Boston, April 14, 1775.**To Mr. Willis Hall, at Sutton.*

SIR,

Your kind favor of 20th February last came to hand a few days ago, and the Committee has desired me to inform you that as the late news from England seems to forbode that the ministry are determined to enforce measures, they think it prudent that the collection our worthy friends in Sutton have made for our really distressed inhabitants, might be suspended for about a fortnight, as perhaps we may then form a better judgment whether our inveterate enemies intend making a farther attempt to subjugate us. The sympathy of our brethren in this Province, and the other Colonies, animates us to stand firm, and to act with prudence and circumspection, and hope that the end will be crowned with success; however, we submit our cause to that Being who governs the world with infinite wisdom and goodness.

Please to present our best regards to our worthy benefactors in Sutton, and are, Sir, with much esteem, your friend and humble servant,

JNO. AVERY, JR., } In behalf of the
Committee.



LETTERS FROM CHARLES MCEVERS & CO.

New York, 20th Feb. 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We have now to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 7th inst., the purport of which we duly note, and shall on our first leisure transmit you particulars of the rice sent to our charge for the suffering poor at Boston. For the present, we judge that about a thousand pounds may be in hand, for which sum we should be glad to answer your bills on us. But should any bills offer on

Boston, which probably may soon be coming from the southward, we shall embrace the same, as guineas or dollars are not to be collected with us, and a loss will attend on remittance in other specie, and our exchange being at $72\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, we suppose that a great loss would arise on sterling bills. We shall do ourselves the pleasure of writing you again by next week's post, when we shall furnish you with particulars to lay before your Committee, and are respectfully, Gentlemen, your most obedient servants, for Philip Livingston and self,

CHARLES MCEVERS & COM'Y.

To Messrs. Dan'l Waldo and Jno. Brown, at Boston.

[Per post.]

New York, March 9th, 1775.

Messrs. Dan'l Waldo and Jno. Brown.

GENTLEMEN,

Our last was of the 21st ult., agreeable to which we have now to inclose you two bills on account of the suffering poor at Boston. Our hopes are that we shall soon have opportunity of investing a further sum on the same account in good bills on your place, when you will hear further, with a state of account from, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servants,

CHA'S MCEVERS & Co.

Jno. Stewart on Gen'l Gage, dated 18th Feb. 1775, No. 34.	£737. 15. 10.
James Bruce on N. Coffin, ...	£25. 0. 0. st'g.
Advance, 33½, ...	8. 6. 8.
	33. 6. 8.
Exchange do.	11. 2. 2. ——— 44. 8. 10.
	£782. 4. 8.

New York, March 16th, 1775.

Messrs. Waldo and Brown.

GENTLEMEN,

Our last was of the 9th instant, covering bills for £782. 4. 8., for account of the poor at Boston. The pres-

ent serves to convey to you the further sum of £246 13. 2, for the same purpose, in bills as at foot, all which we hope will be duly honored, and are, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servants,

CHA'S MCEVERS & COM'Y.

P. B. Lemoult, dated 8th Jan., 1775, on Gen'l Gage,	. . .	£186. 10. 9.
do. do. on Major William Sheriff,	. . .	33. 5. 2.
Jno. on do. Feb. 7th,	. . .	26. 17. 3.
		£246. 13. 2.

REPLY.

Boston, March 25, 1775.

To Philip Livingston, Esq. and Charles McEvers, Esq. and Com'y.

GENTLEMEN,

Your several favors of the 20th February, 9th and 16th March, we duly received. The first advising the receipt of ours of 7th February, and acquainting us with the loss that would attend any remittance made in money or sterling bills.

The two latter inclosing the following bills:

Jno. Stewart's bill on General Gage,		£737. 15. 10.
James Bruce's do. on Nat. Coffin, £25 sterling, equal to		44. 8. 10.
R. B. Lemoult's do. on General Gage,		186. 10. 9.
Said Lemoult's do. on William Sheriff, Esq., £33. 5. 2.		35. 5. 2.
Jno. Caldwell's do. on do.		26. 17. 3.

New York currency, £1,030. 17. 10.

All which are accepted, and that for £186. 10/9, paid.

We, in the name and behalf of the Committee, return you thanks for the care you have taken in remitting the above sum, without that loss which might have attended any other mode; and when you are in cash, shall take it as a favor if you will make remittance in the same manner, if such bills are to be purchased; if not, you will please to advise us, as perhaps we may have an opportunity of disposing of a sum here, and drawing on you for the amount.

In behalf of the Committee, we are, your most obliged friends and fellow-countrymen,

DAN'L WALDO, } *Two of the*
JNO. BROWN, } *Committee.*

REPLY TO CHILMARK.

Boston, Feb. 21, 1775.

James Athem, Esq.

The generous and patriotic spirit which the worthy inhabitants in Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, have manifested in their kind relief afforded this poor, devoted Town, now struggling under the most cruel and arbitrary hand of power, merits our sincerest gratitude, as well as our highest esteem; and it is with pleasure we can inform you that the same noble principle of public virtue which actuated you, has diffused itself not only through this Province, but the whole continent. And we cannot help flattering ourselves that the liberal support granted by our worthy brethren to this distressed Town, will be the means (under Providence) of establishing those rights and privileges which we are determined never to give up, though at the risk of life. Be assured, Sir, we esteem it a kind interposition of Providence, that the hearts of our brethren are opened so liberally for our relief, and only wish it might be in our power to make an adequate return, by a steady and manly resistance to the arbitrary and cruel measures adopted by administration. Please to accept of our grateful acknowledgments, and may heaven reward you.

We herewith enclose you a copy of our proceedings, as also a vindication of our much injured characters, which we hope will be acceptable.

We are, with great esteem and regard, your most humble servants,

JOHN AVERY, JR. { Per order of
Committee.



LETTER FROM PRESTON.

Preston, 22d February, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We have sent you by the bearer, Mr. Oliver Coit, the small sum of £18. 13. 0, lawful money; much short of

what we expected, and of what is subscribed. Our people are like mankind in general; when danger first appears, they are vastly more apprehensive than they be after it has continued some time, and they do not feel no immediate bad effect; and the false reports that have been propagated respecting the misimprovement of the donations, have made some doubting sort of people delay; but we keep subscriptions open, and conclude so to do, and to take any thing that will be useful for your poor, and shall remit them to you as opportunities will allow.

We would not be understood that our people are not firm in the grand cause, for we have lately had evidence to the contrary. We had a town meeting, to give our representatives instructions, and their instructions were to raise an army in this Colony, of five or six thousand men, immediately, and to be kept as an army of observation, and we had not one dissenting voice to the contrary. We shall always take it as a particular favor from you, to be informed when any new occurrences happen, either for good or evil, towards you as a people, for we do really look on ourselves on the same bottom with you. We have the curiosity to know what numbers of land forces there are now quartered in your Town. Pray inform us in your next.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants,

BEN. COIT, { In behalf and per order of the
Committee of Correspondence.

To the Committee of Correspondence in the Town of Boston.

REPLY TO PRESTON.

Boston, 4th March, 1775.

To Mr. Benj'n Coit, at Preston.

SIR,

We received by the hands of our good friend, Mr. Oliver Coit, your kind favor, attending a generous donation of £18. 13/ for our suffering poor, which we gratefully acknowledge. The kind expressions of tenderness for this poor devoted Town animates us to continue firm under the most severe trials, and a determination in us to maintain and support the glorious cause we are embarked in; and

while we have the aid and assistance of our worthy brethren on the continent, our troubles are greatly alleviated. The observation you make on the tempers of mankind in general, is just, and their apprehensions increase in proportion as they are more immediately affected; but it is with pleasure we have seen and experienced a union of sentiment through this wide and extensive continent, and in an especial manner in our worthy brethren in Connecticut, whose exertions in the common cause have made the deepest impressions on our minds.

We do not wonder that some of our brethren have been imposed upon, when our inveterate enemies have left no stone unturned to vilify and abuse a Committee who give their whole time, without fee or reward, to serve their distressed fellow citizens, which you will perceive by the inclosed. We ought to be very cautious and circumspect, and lest we should be imposed upon by wicked and designing men, whose feeble attempts to enslave have hitherto, through kind Providence, proved abortive.

We are well pleased to find that our brethren in Connecticut are vigilant, and are exerting themselves for their protection and defence, and we can with pleasure inform you that the same spirit actuates this wide and extensive continent, and a determination to risk life and every valuable enjoyment, rather than give up our just rights and privileges. The ministry thought to affrighten us by sending a cruel Port Bill, attended with a formidable fleet and army, and dragoon us into a compliance to their iniquitous acts; but they are disappointed, and we flatter ourselves the proceedings of our worthy Continental Congress, will open the eyes of the nation. The number of regiments in Boston, are twelve, but from the best information we can get, they have not more than three thousand men; for what with desertions and deaths, they are much reduced.

Please to present our best regards to our worthy brethren in Preston, who have so liberally relieved this poor distressed Town; and may Heaven reward you.

We are, with much esteem, your obliged friend and humble servants,

JOHN AVERY, Jun., { Per order Committee of Donations.

LETTER FROM NATHANIEL GOODWIN.

*Plymouth, 25 February, 1775.**To the Committee of Donations.*

GENTLEMEN,

Inclosed you find a letter from the Deacon of the South Precinct in Plympton, the Rev'd Mr. Howland's parish, together with four pounds, three shillings, lawful money. By their desire I send it per Capt. Benjamin Wormwell, being the first opportunity. Wish safe to hand, and remain ready to do any service in my power.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATH'L GOODWIN.

LETTER FROM PLYMPTON.

*Plympton, 22d Feb. 1775.**To the Committee of Donations.*

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith send you four pounds, three shillings, lawful money, being what we have collected for the suffering poor in the Town of Boston, for which we beg your acceptance.

SAMUEL LUCAS, { Deacon of the South
Parish in Plympton.

REPLY TO PLYMPTON.

*Boston, March 3, 1775.**To Deacon Samuel Lucas, of the South Precinct in Plympton.*

SIR,

The generous exertions of our brethren in the country, in their maintaining the cause of freedom, and the kind assistance afforded to the inhabitants of this Town, now struggling under the most cruel oppression, impresses our minds with the sincerest gratitude, and animates us in our resolutions never to forfeit your good esteem by tamely submitting to that power which all good men must think it their duty to oppose, by every legal and justifiable measure. The repeated insults we have received since the oppressive Port Bill has taken place, has only served to unite us, by every tie of social affection, and we have

the pleasure to inform you that one soul actuates this wide and extensive continent. The cause we are engaged in, is righteous and worth contending for; and were we to suffer still greater afflictions, and more severe than what an [in]famous administration could possibly impose on us, we should not give up our rights; those rights which God and nature have given. We esteem it a great interposition of Divine Providence, that the hearts of our brethren are so liberally disposed for our relief; and we cannot help flattering ourselves, that with your kind assistance we shall be able to baffle the weak and wicked designs of our enemies.

Please to accept of our sincere acknowledgments for your generous donation of four pounds, nine shillings, which we shall apply to the needy and greatly distressed inhabitants. We herewith inclose you the method we have taken to employ the poor, as also a vindication of our much injured characters.

With our best respects presented to the worthy inhabitants of the South Precinct in Plympton, we are, with much esteem, your obliged friends and humble servants,

JNO. AVERY, Jun. } Per order of the Committee of Donations.



LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, 23d February, 1775.

To William Phillips, Esq.

SIR,

By order of the Committee of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, we have shipped three tons of bar iron, three tons of rod iron, and three hundred barrels of flour, to your care, on board brig Union, Capt. Samuel Williams. These goods are part of the donations of this City, &c., to your Town, and are all that Capt. Williams could take. The goods are insured, and the brig is expected to sail by 25th inst.

We are, respectfully, your friends,

BENJA. MARSHALL.

SAMUEL MASSEY.

JONA. B. SMITH.

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REPLY TO BROOKLINE.

*Boston, 1 March, 1775.**To the Selectmen of the Town of Brookline.*

GENTLEMEN,

We have to acknowledge the receipt of £25. 7. 6½, in cash, by the hands of our worthy friend Mr. John Heath, also wood, mutton, rice, corn, &c., it being the very generous donation of the Town of Brookline, to this devoted place, who are now suffering the severity of ministerial vengeance, for nobly exerting themselves in the glorious cause of American liberty. We trust that by the blessing of Heaven, and the kind assistance of our sympathizing and benevolent brethren, in this and the other Colonies, we shall be enabled to stand firm, (as we have hitherto done,) to the disappointment and disgrace of the enemies of America and the liberties of mankind. Accept of our grateful thanks for this mark of your affection and sympathy towards us in our unhappy situation.

I am, with due acknowledgments for the care you have taken, in the name of the Committee, Gentlemen,

Your obliged friend and servant,

THOMAS CRAFTS, Jun.

March 8. A copy of this was sent to Jeduthan Baldwin, and the Committee of Brookfield, acknowledging the receipt of 30 bushels rye, 14 bushels corn, ¼ bushel beans, 18 cheeses, by Moses Ayers and Jno. Wait.



LETTER FROM BRADFORD.

*Bradford, 3 March, 1775.**To the Committee of Donations.*

GENTLEMEN,

We the subscribers, being chosen by the Town of Bradford to make some collections for our suffering brethren of the Town of Boston, and considering it our interest as well as our duty to promote the public cause of freedom, against those that would enslave us, we have

cheerfully accepted of the employment, and do herewith transmit the same by our trusty friend, Mr. Phineas Carlton, being the small sum of £19. 4/5, in cash, together with thirty-four pair shoes; at the same time earnestly wishing that the spirit of benevolence that runs through the continent, may keep pace with the sufferings of our distressed brethren, until He who hears the cries of the oppressed, shall be pleased to deliver an afflicted people.

From your most humble servants,

ABRAHAM PARKER.

THOS. MORSE.

OBADIAH KIMBALL.



LETTER FROM GORHAM.

Gorham, March 6th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The bearer, Capt. Isaac Danks, waits on you with a small sloop load of wood, about thirty cord, one half of which he is to have for freight, the other half is for the needy poor of your oppressed Town. We intended to have sent you double this quantity, but being above a dozen miles from any harbor, and the road rendered impassable with either sleds or carts, we are unluckily prevented. We lament the unhappy situation of our brethren in Boston, unjustly suffering the weight of ministerial vengeance; and though our purses cannot afford them much relief, our persons are ready to support them, undismayed by any danger to which our enemies would expose us. We sincerely wish you the rewards of Heaven for your unprecedented patience in such a trial. May that almighty Being who governs all the earth, smile on your endeavors to preserve our country from impending ruin.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants,

CARY McLELLAN, } In behalf of the Committee
of the Town of Gorham.

REPLY TO GORHAM AND OTHERS.

Copy of a Letter sent to James Boise of Milton, Col. Lemuel Robinson of Dorchester, and Mr. Cary McLellan of Gorham Town, acknowledging receipt of wood.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee appointed by this Town to receive and distribute the charitable donations of our worthy and patriotic brethren, to return their hearty thanks to the Town of for their generous donations of loads of wood.

We have great cause of thankfulness to the great beneficent Being, for stirring up the hearts of our worthy brethren in this and the other governments, to contribute so liberally towards the necessity of the industrious inhabitants of this Town, reduced to the necessity (in support of the common cause of liberty) of living on the charity of others, many of whom, before the cruel Port Bill took place, had it in their power, and took pleasure in relieving the wants of their distressed brethren.

This Town is in truly distressed circumstances, and the effects of the Port Bill more sensibly felt at this season of the year, for want of employment in many branches of business, than in the summer season ; and was it not for the seasonable supply we receive from our worthy friends, we should not be able to bear up under our burthen. But through the good hand of God upon us, we have been hitherto supported, and we trust he will support us till the enemies of America, seeing their attempts to enslave her fruitless, shall cease to persecute and leave her in the full enjoyment of her rights and privileges.

I am, in behalf of the Committee,

Your most humble servants,

D. WALDO.

P. S.—The Committee return you their grateful acknowledgments, for the care and trouble you have taken in the collection and management of this donation.

REPLY TO DUXBURY.

Boston, 7 March, 1775.

To Mr. George Partridge, at Duxbury, to be communicated to the Town.

GENTLEMEN,

The sympathy of our brethren in Duxbury, to the poor, distressed inhabitants of this Town, demands our sincere gratitude, and we now embrace this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of twenty-one cords wood, which is a seasonable relief to our suffering poor. The kindness and generosity of our brethren in this and the other Colonies, revives our spirits and induces us to remain firm and steady; and we are determined to suffer still greater distress, rather than give up our rights and privileges.

Inclosed you have a copy of our proceedings with respect to the employment of our poor, as also a vindication of our much injured characters, which we hope will prove satisfactory.

Please to present our best regards to the worthy inhabitants of Duxbury for their liberality, and only wish it might be in our power to make a return adequate to your goodness.

We are, Gentlemen, with great esteem, your much obliged friend and humble servant,

JNO. AVERY, Jr., *Per order.*



LETTERS FROM GLOUCESTER.

Gloucester, 8th March, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Inclosed you have an account of three bags of cocoa, containing 257 wt. being the amount of ten pounds which I received in Dominica, the particulars of which, you now receive per Mr. Isaac Smith. The cocoa I have in my hands, and am ready to deliver it to your order.

I am, Gentlemen, your humble servant,

WILLIAM PEARSON.

To the Committee of Correspondence in Boston.

*Gloucester, 10th March, 1775.**To the Committee of Donations.*

GENTLEMEN,

The inhabitants of the Town of Gloucester, being deeply affected at the distresses your Town of Boston is cruelly laid under, have by subscription, raised the sum of £116. 18. 7½., which we transmit to you by the hands of Isaac Smith, Esq., to be applied for the relief of the poor of said Town.

We are, Gentlemen, your humble servants,

JOHN LOW,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
JACOB ALLEN,	
JAMES PORTER,	
SAM'L ROGERS,	
	} <i>of</i>
	} <i>Gloucester.</i>

REPLY TO GLOUCESTER.

Boston, March 17th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

Your kind favor of the 10th instant, by our good friend Isaac Smith, Esq., have received, attending the generous sum of £117. 7. 1., for the relief of the truly distressed inhabitants of this Town, which shall be applied agreeable to the benevolent intention of the donors; and with hearts as deeply affected, we acknowledge the kind hand of Providence, who has so liberally disposed the hearts of our brethren in this and the other Colonies, to support our suffering poor, who, without that aid and assistance which they have generously afforded us, we should have, ere this, become a prey to ministerial vengeance, and perhaps have been doomed to submit to an impious and as an abandoned set of men as the world ever produced. But we flatter ourselves, that the time is not far distant, that the patience, virtue, and fortitude of the sons of freedom in this western world, will arise superior to the vile and wicked schemes that have been adopted to subjugate us.

The more than savage cruelty of our parent state toward this poor, devoted Town, cannot be paralleled in

history. Our enemies are numerous, they leave no stone unturned to accomplish their accursed designs, but they have hitherto proved abortive. They vainly imagined that the formidable measures they had taken, by sending their fleet and army, that we should be awed into a compliance; but our spirits have been roused in proportion to the insults and abuse we have received, which have been many and aggravated; but prudence has dictated to us to be steady and firm, to suffer still greater trials of patience, which may the Parent of nature and of every good enable us to go through with.

Please to present our best regards to the worthy inhabitants of the Town of Gloucester, and are, with great esteem,

Your much obliged friends and humble servant,

JNO. AVERY, JR.

To Messrs. John Low, and others, Selectmen of the Town of Gloucester.



LETTER FROM FALMOUTH.

*Falmouth, Second Parish, called New Casco,
March 11, 1775.*

GENTLEMEN,

We herewith transmit to you, by Capt. Wormell and Capt. Lock, some wood, which we cheerfully give to our suffering brethren that are now standing in the gap between us and slavery. We are but few in number, and of small ability; and as we earn our bread by the sweat of our brow, shall ever hold in utter detestation, both men and measures that would rob us of the fruit of our toils, and are ready with our labor, with our lives, and with our estates, to stand or fall in the common cause of liberty. And if we fall, we shall die like men and like Christians, and enjoy the glorious privileges of the sons of God.

This from your humble servants, in behalf of the inhabitants of said parish.

SAM'L COBB, NATH'L CARLL, JAMES MORRILL,	}	Committee.
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To Samuel Adams, Esq., Chairman of the worthy Committee of the Poor in Boston.

REPLY TO FALMOUTH.

*Boston, 23 March, 1775.**To Capt. Sam'l Cobb, Nath'l Carll, and James Merrill, at Falmouth.*

GENTLEMEN,

Last evening your favor of 11th inst. directed to Mr. Sam'l Adams, Chairman of the Committee of Donations, came to hand. Your contributions towards the relief and encouragement of the poor in this Town, suffering by means of the Boston Port Bill, are received, viz., sixteen and seven eights cords of [wood] per Capt. Wormell, and fourteen more by Capt. Lock. Our grateful acknowledgments are first due to God, nextly to you, our worthy friends and countrymen, for so generous and seasonable supplies, under our distressing circumstances. But blessed be God, we faint not, nor shall we, while he is pleased to favor, support and comfort us.

Your letter, though short, is very refreshing. Though the lines are few, the matter is very comprehensive. What could you have said more? The Committee are greatly obliged and not a little strengthened. You will please to accept their sincere thanks for that cordial affection expressed in your letter, and manifested in a way the most convincing. May the Lord bless you and reward you a thousand fold.

Inclosed are printed accounts respecting the Committee's conduct in the distributions of the charities of our kind benefactions received. It seems they must pass through *bad as well as good report*. None of their enemies have yet *accepted the challenge*. The Committee make no pretensions to infallibility, but they profess to endeavor to act in some good measure conformable to the intent of the benevolent donors. We do not, we never did expect to please the enemies of America; but we hope to please, and give satisfaction to our friends. This is what we aim at; and while we experience the liberality of our countrymen, we can never doubt of their candor and good opinion.

What further trials and distresses this oppressed Town, or America in general, may be called to go through, we cannot say; it will be happy to be prepared for all events.

Some intelligence will doubtless come to hand, shortly, from which a better judgment may be formed, than can be at present. However, we are not, nor have we been, without some rays of light amidst all our darkness. We are therefore to pray and hope and wait for the salvation of God.

I am, Gentlemen, your sincere friend and fellow-countryman,

D. JEFFRIES, { Per order of the Com-
mittee of Donations.



LETTER TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE.

Boston, March 14th, 1775.

To Mr. Samuel Purviance, Jr., Merchant in Baltimore.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee appointed by this Town, to acquaint you that your bill of exchange, drawn on Jeremiah Lee, Esq., for two hundred pounds Maryland currency, being the amount of a generous collection made by the respectable people of the middle division of Frederick County, for the relief of the sufferers by the Boston Port Bill, is duly received. Be pleased, Sir, to accept of the Committee's sincere acknowledgments of your kindness in transacting this affair; and if it be not too troublesome, permit me to ask the further favor of you, that a collection which the Committee are advised is making by our friends in Cecil County, which will amount to three or four hundred pounds, may in like manner pass through your hands.

I am, Sir, with very great regard, in behalf of the Committee, your obliged and affectionate friend and countryman,

SAM'L ADAMS.

[Per post.]



LETTER TO DEACON KNOWLES.

Boston, March 15th, 1775.

To Deacon Edward Knowles.

SIR,

Your kind and generous donation of 7. 16/., by the hand of our good friend Capt. Edward Knowles, for the

relief and support of our suffering poor, we have received ; and permit us to return you our hearty and sincere thanks for the same. We esteem it a great interposition of divine Providence, that the hearts of our brethren in this Province are so liberally disposed, and so generously inclined to succor us in our struggle with an infamous and abandoned ministry. We have hitherto, by a manly resistance, baffled their iniquitous measures, and we cannot but flatter ourselves that, in the end, our endeavors will be crowned with success ; however, we firmly rely on the goodness of that Being who governs the world with infinite wisdom and goodness, that in his own due time he will relieve us from all our difficulties. It is with pleasure we can inform you that one spirit actuates this wide and extensive continent, and whose benevolence and sympathy we have largely experienced.

Inclosed you have the proceedings of this Committee, which we hope will prove acceptable. Please to return our sincere acknowledgments, again and again, to our worthy and benevolent friends at Eastham ; and may God reward you, is our sincere prayer.

We are, with great esteem, your obliged friends and servants,

JNO. AVERY, Jr., { In behalf of the Committee of Donations.



LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1775.

William Phillips, Esq.

SIR,

Messrs. Marshall, Masey and myself, were directed by the Committee of this City and Liberties, to ship further for your Town ; and having an opportunity per schooner William, Josiah Gorham, master, you have inclosed a bill of lading, and on the other side an invoice for 163 barrels flour, 10 barrels rye meal, and 2 casks bread, per said ves-

sel, being part of the donations of this City, &c., for the distressed people of Boston.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your very humble servant,

JONA. B. SMITH.

The vessel not stowing as many as was expected, the following fifteen numbers are left out, and will be shipped by some other vessel with an addition.

92	105	108	125	139
102	106	109	134	143
103	107	112	135	101



LETTER FROM NEWPORT.

Newport, Rhode Island, Mar. 17, 1775.

Mr. Jonathan Mason.

SIR,

Your esteemed favor of December 5th, I duly received. I have here transmitted you by Mr. Mumford, the remainder of the subscription in our place, (for the relief of the poor inhabitants that are immediate sufferers by the Boston Port Bill,) amounting to £70 10. 2. lawful money. There are still some few gleanings yet remaining, which, when received, shall likewise take care to remit them.

Also you have here remitted £5 15. 3. sterling, more, arising from the sale of goods imported into this Colony since the continental rules of the Congress took place.

I cannot but condole with you for the loss of your trade, and impositions you labor under by an over-ruling hand of a base minister. But by the agreeable news received by this packet, gives us a glimmering of hopes their schemes will be confuted and America rendered in a state of freedom once more, which is the earnest desire of all ranks of people that are not under the influence of the base, sycophant tools of a minister.

I remain, with much esteem, your assured friend, &c.,

JOHN FANNER, { Receiver of Donations for
the Poor of Boston.

LETTER FROM MILFORD.

Milford, March 18th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We have shipped on board the sloop Friendship, Joseph Hull, master, for the use of the poor of Boston, as follows, viz., 21 bushels Indian corn, 10 do. messlin? 215½ do. rye, 15½ do. wheat, 1 barrel beef, being part of the donation of the Town of Milford; the remainder will [be] forwarded as soon as possible. The Captain has orders to deliver them to either of the Committee for receiving such donations for the uses above mentioned, at Boston, Salem, or Marblehead, as he does not yet know where he shall discharge his cargo.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants,

JOHN ARNOLD,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
NOAH BALDWIN,		
NATHAN FOWLES,		

To either of the Committee for receiving donations for the Boston poor, at Boston, Salem, or Marblehead.



LETTER FROM WINDSOR.

*Windsor, March 20th, 1775.**Mr. Jonathan Mason.*

SIR,

We being appointed by this Town to receive donations for the poor of Boston, and as we understand you are one to receive them, have directed Capt. Smith to deliver you what grain we have collected for that purpose, viz., 391 bushels rye, 89½ bushels corn and half barrel of pork.

We are, your humble servants,

JAMES HOOKER.
OLIVER MATHER.

LETTER FROM EAST WINDSOR.

East Windsor, March 22d, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

These are to inform you the donations of the inhabitants of the Town of East Windsor, in grain, for the support of the poor of Boston, now suffering under the operation of the severe oppressive Port Bill. The quantity, and on whom, and upon what conditions the same is shipped, you will learn by a copy of the master's receipt, which is sent you inclosed. We rejoice at the patience and fortitude of the Town, and Province, under the extreme sufferings of such cruel and oppressive acts, and hope and most ardently pray, that Heaven will support you till in his righteous providence he shall see fit to appear for your deliverance and cloathe our enemies with shame, and in the mean time put it and keep it in the hearts of the inhabitants of this Town, and all the Towns of the continent, willingly and checrfully to bear so small a part of the burthens unjustly brought upon you by those Acts, so threatening to us all, as to support the poor of your Town in so just a cause and so glorious a struggle for liberty. You will accept what this Town has done, though far less than what some other Towns have, as a testimony of their sympathy with and concern for you, and an encouragement to expect further help, which the Committee of this Town will be ever ready industriously to promote.

By order of the Committee,

WILLIAM WALCOTT.

To the Overseers of the Poor in Boston.



LETTER FROM FALMOUTH.

Falmouth, March 22d, 1775.

To the Committee of Donations.

Have sent you by Deacon Ransford Smith of Tisbury, from Deacon Joseph Davis, of said Falmouth, contributed by us, your friends and fellow countrymen, five pounds, fifteen shillings and eight pence, from yours,

JOSEPH DAVIS.

LETTER FROM PROVIDENCE.

*Providence, March 31, 1775.**To the Committee for receiving Donations.*

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith send by Mr. Mumford, the post, the remaining part of the donation of this Town towards the relief of the Town of Boston, it being in cash, and amounts to fifty-one pounds, which together with the sheep heretofore sent to you, including the cost of driving, which was five dollars, makes the sum voted by this town, which was one hundred and twenty-five pounds.

I have remaining in my hands the flour and pork sent from the Jerseys, and cannot as yet dispose of the same for cash, unless at a very low price. I shall dispose of it as soon as possible, and transmit to you the cash.

I remain, Gentlemen, yours to serve,

JAMES ANGELL.



LETTER FROM NEW HAVEN.

New Haven, March 31, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We send you inclosed an account of the charity of your friends in the Town of New Haven, in Connecticut, to be distributed among our suffering brethren in Boston, as their necessities shall require. You will see by the account inclosed, that some of the grain is from other Towns. Mr. Townsend, the bearer, will acquaint you concerning the freight of the donations from other Towns, and all other particulars.

Signed by order of the Committee for collecting donations for Boston.

HENRY DAGGET, *Clerk.**To the Committee of Ways and Means in Boston.*

LETTER TO JOHN TANNER.

Boston, March 25th, 1775.

Mr. John Tanner.

SIR,

Your agreeable favor of the 17th inst. duly came to hand, with the repeated and generous donation from your place, of seventy pound, 10/2. lawful money, and five pound, 15/3. sterling, arising from the sale of goods for the benefit of the poor of this Town, suffering by the cruel Port Bill, which donations we receive as a sure testimony of your sympathy for your suffering brethren in this place, and for the grand cause of American liberty; for which you have the most sincere and grateful thanks of this Committee, in whose behalf,

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

JONA. MASON.



LETTER TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

Boston, March 29th, 1775.¹

John Augustine Washington, Westmoreland, Virginia.

SIR,

The Committee of donations having employed a number of our smiths (who were thrown out of business, in

¹ There is no acknowledgment in the MS. of the reception of any donations from England. The Treasurer of the "Constitutional Society" of London, under the date of March 7, 1775, published, among other letters, the following:

To Richard Oliver, Esq. SIR: I saw in the newspapers that the constitutional society had given an hundred pounds to the distressed inhabitants of Boston. If the trifle I send herewith is thought worthy of acceptance by the society, I beg they would apply it to the same purpose; if not, I desire it may be returned to the person who will bring the corner that is torn off from this letter. Most of the gentlemen in my neighborhood are desirous to assist them; and if I know it will be acceptable, I will take care to forward their subscriptions to you. Any message given to the person who will bring the torn corner of this letter, will be faithfully delivered to, Sir, your humble servant,

J. J.

With twenty pounds.

Another person, for a similar purpose, sent ten pounds; another, fifteen pounds; another, twenty pounds; and another, ten pounds and four guineas, enclosed in a cover addressed "to the Bostonians."—*Force's Archives*, vol. ii. p. 56. [Ed.]

consequence of the late cruel Acts of Parliament) in making a parcel of axes and hoes, which were made by the best workmen and warranted, have by way of trial, consigned the same to our worthy friend the bearer, Mr. John Tileston, who is bound for your place.

From the knowledge we have of your firm and hearty attachment to the grand cause of American liberty, and the experience we have had of the great benevolence of our worthy brethren, the noble Virginians, we are encouraged to take the liberty to request the favor of you, not only to assist our friend, Mr. Tileston, in the disposal of those axes and hoes, but also to inform us what prospect there is with you, of disposing of *any* quantity of hoes or axes, as we can have them made here by the best workmen, and agreeable to any pattern you may forward, and warranted to be good. Could a sale for those articles be obtained, it would be the means of giving relief to many of our worthy inhabitants of that business, who are suffering greatly in consequence of the late unrighteous and oppressive Acts, as all our other tradesmen are.

We have full evidence of your sincere and hearty sympathy with us under our present sufferings for the cause of liberty, and for which you have the most grateful thanks of the Committee, in whose behalf,

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

JONA. MASON.



LETTER FROM MONSON.

Monson, April 5th, 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

We the inhabitants of the small district of Monson, have sent you by the bearer, a small present, to be distributed for the relief of the suffering poor of the Town of Boston, and as a testimonial of our firm adherence to the great cause which you have so strenuously asserted, and honorably maintained, in which every thing that is dear to us is embarked. We would not by any means be found want-

ing in affording our utmost assistance to those that are involved in penury on account of public liberty, and in vindication of our just rights. We here profess a ready cheerfulness to shed our blood to oppose tyranny and oppression ; much more, to part with our substance to relieve our oppressed friends. We send this, only as our earnest of what we design to bestow, if your necessity call. We return you our warmest thanks for your watchful care and anxious solicitude for your country's cause. Reward you we cannot—your reward awaits you in Heaven—be thou faithful to the death, &c.

From, Gentlemen, your very humble servants,

BENJ. MAN, }
AB'L. GOODELL, } *Committee.*
NOAH SABIN, }

N. B.—We have eighty stout fellows in this district, a great part of which are not only disciplined, but excellent marksmen. I dare be bold to say that at about thirty rod distance, they would pick up tories as fast as so many hawks would kick frogs from a frog-pond.



LETTER TO ROBERT TOWNSEND.

Boston, 7th April, 1775.

Capt. Robert Townsend.

SIR,

Your letter directed to Deacon Thomas Greenough, has been laid before the Committee, who have directed me to acquaint you that they are very sorry for the trouble you have with the officers in shifting your cargo ; but any extra expense that may attend that business, they will readily allow. This the Committee think will be satisfactory, and hope they shall soon have the pleasure [of] seeing you in Boston.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, your very humble servant,

JOHN BROWN, *Per order.*

LETTER TO ALEXANDER HODGDON.

Boston, April 21, 1775.

SIR,

The Committee being engaged with the Selectmen and others in a conference upon our public affairs, I am directed to transmit to you, a list of Capt. Mark Ferar's cargo from Virginia, taken from the bills of lading, viz., shipped by Anthony Walker & Co., one hundred twenty bushels corn; do. the Committee of Princess Ann County, 800 bushels Indian; do. the Committee of Elizabeth City County, 422 bushels corn, 120 bushels peas, and 6 firkins butter. The freight of all the above being paid in Virginia.

Sir, I am directed to desire you will receive and store the same (upon the best terms you can) till further orders.

I am, in behalf, and by order of the Committee, Sir, your humble servant,

ALEX'R HODGDON, *Clerk.**To Mr. Nathan Appleton, at Salem.*

P. S.—Inclosed is an order on Chris'r Higgins for sixty bushels rye, freight not paid. The Committee paid Capt. Smith six pence per bushel, and would beg the favor you will likewise store it, and settle the freight with Capt. Higgins.

Your humble servant,

A. H.



LETTER TO PETER CURTENUS.

Boston, July 8, 1776.

SIR,

The Committee for receiving Donations for the poor of this Town, have received your favor of 27th ult. per Mr. Andrew Hurd, with the sum of £216. 0. 5. your currency, which is agreeable to said Hurd's receipt, though your letter mentions £217. 7. 1. as the net proceeds of 63 casks rice you received from Georgia.¹ The Committee are desir-

¹ On the 10th of August, 1774, at a general meeting of the inhabitants of Georgia, at Savannah, a committee was appointed "to receive subscriptions

ous of receiving an account sales of the rice, as also from whom the rice was sent from Georgia, that they may take proper notice of their benevolent, sympathizing brethren there.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

P. BOYER.

Mr. Peter Curtenus, of New York.



ORDER TO JOHN WHITE.

Boston, September 26, 1775.

MR. HODGDON :

Let Mr. John Hoson have $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel meal, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel rye, 7 lbs. flour, 14 lbs. bread, 4 lbs. pork, 8 lbs. beef, 4 quarts peas, it being donation.

JOHN WHITE.

[Entered.]

for the suffering poor of Boston." A letter dated St. John's Parish, Sept. 2, 1774, states that a subscription in that parish had been opened "for the relief of the unhappy sufferers at Boston," and that this single Parish had already subscribed to the amount of two hundred barrels of rice, which is to be forwarded by the Committee of Correspondence."

A letter dated Savannah, December 9, 1774, to a person in Philadelphia, says : "There are large donations of rice for the sufferers in Boston, and had we the means of sending it to them, with very little trouble much more would be collected and sent. Few have subscribed less than ten tierces of rice. If no opportunity offers soon, directly to Boston, it will be sent to your Committee, to be disposed of for them."

The Darien Committee, January 12, 1775, resolved, "That the unparalleled moderation, the decent but firm and manly conduct of the loyal and brave people of Boston and of Massachusetts Bay, to preserve their liberty, deserves not only the applause and thanks of all America, but also, the imitation of all mankind."

An association entered into by forty-five of the Deputies assembled in Provincial Congress at Savannah, January 18, 1775, resolved, that the profits of all goods imported in violation of the non-importation agreement and sold by order of the Committee of the Provincial Congress, should be applied "towards relieving such poor inhabitants of the town of Boston as are immediate sufferers by the Port Bill."

The following letter, addressed to the Committee of Donations, is copied from Force's Archives, vol. ii. 871 :

Savannah, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN :—Although the inhabitants of Georgia have unfortunately drawn on themselves the censure of her sister Colonies, by not adopting those measures which the wisdom of the General Congress have pointed out for the preservation of the liberties of America ; yet, we flatter ourselves you will believe there are

LETTER TO SAMUEL HUTTON.

*Boston, Sept. 9th, 1776.**Mr. Samuel Hutton.*

SIR,

The Committee for receiving Donations for the poor of this Town, have directed me to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of 16th ult. relating to corn and rye in your hands, which they desire you will sell for the most you can get, as they do not choose to run the risk of your sending it by water. When you are in cash, I doubt not you will send it by some safe hand. The Committee are very much obliged for the trouble you have had in this matter, in whose behalf,

I remain, Sir, your most humble servant,

PETER BOYER,
Of Stamford in Connecticut.

many among us who sincerely espouse the great cause contended for by you; and who ardently wish that the noble stand you have made in defence of these rights, to which, as men and British subjects, we are entitled, may be crowned with success. The distresses our brethren must unavoidably experience by enforcement of the late acts of a cruel and vindictive ministry, deeply affect us. The unhappy division amongst us, has hitherto prevented our contributing to their support; but have now the pleasure to transmit you, by the Juliana, Capt. Stringham, bound to New York, a small contribution of sixty-three barrels of rice, and one hundred and twenty-two pounds sterling, in specie, under the care of John Eaton La Conte, Esq., which we desire you will please appropriate towards the relief of those who have lately left the town of Boston. We hope soon to be enabled, by our friends who reside at a distance from Savannah, to send you a further token of our regard for you, and those whom misfortune must increase with the oppressive measures now pursued by administration against America.

I have the honor to be, on behalf of the contributors, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

W. JONES.

To the Gentlemen of the Committee for receiving Donations for the relief of the distressed inhabitants of Boston.

The Boston Gazette of January 16, 1775, has the following paragraph: "From the Southern papers we learn, that agreeable to the recommendation of the Grand Council of America, the several Colonies, as far as Georgia, were continuing their collections for the relief of the poor sufferers by the execrable Port-bill. What can better manifest the union of the Colonies, and their firm affection for and sympathy for each other, than these donations; or place in a more striking point of light, the inhumanity of that parliament which has made such large and distant charities absolutely necessary to preserve thousands of the inhabitants from starving." [Ed.]

N O T E .



THE two papers of the Committee of Donations, vindicating their disposition of the contributions, which are so often referred to in the above correspondence, are here copied from the public journals. The first is taken from the Boston Gazette of September 26, 1774.

The Committttee (consisting of the following Members, namely,

Mr. SAMUEL ADAMS, JOHN ROWE, Esq. THOMAS BOYLSTON, Esq. WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Esq. Doct. JOSEPH WARREN, JOHN ADAMS, Esq. JOSIAH QUINCY, Jun. Esq. Hon. THOMAS CUSHING, Esq. Mr. HENDERSON INCHES, Mr. WILLIAM MOLINEAUX, Mr. NATHANIEL APPLETON, Capt. EDWARD PROCTER, Capt. FORTESQUE VERNON,	Mr. JOHN WHITE, Mr. GIBBENS SHARPE, Capt. WILLIAM MACKEY, Mr. THOMAS GREENOUGH, Capt. SAMUEL PARTRIDGE, BENJAMIN AUSTIN, Esq. Mr. JONATHAN MASON. Mr. JOHN BROWN, Mr. JAMES RICHARDSON, Mr. THOMAS CRAFTS, Jun. Mr. HENRY HILL, Mr. JOSHUA HENSHAW, Jun. Mr. DAVID JEFFRIES,)
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appointed by the town of Boston to receive Donations for the charitable purpose of relieving and employing the poor, suffering by means of the Act of Parliament, commonly called the Boston Port Bill, would gratefully acknowledge the receipt of many generous collections made in several of our sympathizing sister Colonies, as well as charitable donations from many Towns in this Province, and private friends to this cruelly oppressed and patient people.

The Committee consider themselves at all times answerable to their constituents, and as peculiarly accountable to their munificent benefactors, who ought ever to have all reasonable satisfaction touching the disposition of their charities.

The trust reposed in the Committee is important, and its discharge extremely arduous. And when the powers and dispositions of those who trouble us are properly considered, so far from receiving support and aid in the relief of this distressed Town, it must be obvious that many unnecessary difficulties and embarrassments would be thrown in the way. Many are the public works (to which large grants and subscriptions would cheerfully be made by persons who would be peculiarly benefitted thereby) such as the building of a bridge over Charles river, and another over to Dorchester neck, the erecting of hospitals and other large and much wanted public edifices, which might be carried on to the immediate and great relief of the poor, if the Province was now blessed with a constitutional and patriotic Legislature existing within it.

Miserable is the state of that community who have the forms, but not the powers, of good government: but much more miserable are they who have

neither. Whoever, therefore, fully considers the difficulties of every sort with which the Committee have to engage, will view all their actions with an eye of charity and candor, and will be far from hastily giving credit to the malicious whispers and slanderous sarcasms of our public enemies. Surely better evidence than this ought to be given, before Americans should entertain jealousies, and doubt the integrity, of distant brethren.

In order for the regular conduct of business, for the satisfaction of candid inquirers, as well as the silencing slanderous reports, the Committee very early opened a complete set of books, which have been kept in the most regular manner. In them are entered all the donations, as they are received, and from whom; together with a fair record of all matters which come before the Committee and their proceedings thereupon. These books are open every day for the inspection of all persons.

The Committee, having set several days, and by themselves and their sub-committees, had various consultations, notified the inhabitants, that they should attend every afternoon for ten days (Lord's day excepted) for all classes of people suffering by the Port-Bill, to lay their circumstances before the committee, that the distressed might (if possible) be employed in their several occupations. Accordingly, great numbers of various classes applied, especially mechanics and laborers: of the latter the circumstances of much the greater part called for immediate relief.

In this exigency, several plans were proposed, but they all required time to be further considered and better digested, before they could be carried into practice. The only proposal, therefore, which could be carried into execution, with the speed necessary to give bread and employ to the most indigent laborers, was the repair and pavement of some of our public streets. This, therefore, it was thought most eligible to adopt. Accordingly it was proposed to the selectmen of the Town, (who are surveyors of the streets,) that if they would engage in repairing those parts of the Town which most wanted it, that the Committee of Donations, &c., would contribute towards the payment of the laborers out of the donations made for employing the poor. The selectmen acceding to this eligible way of giving immediate employ and sustenance to necessitous laborers, numbers of our most indigent inhabitants were by this plan kept from the dangers of idleness, and enabled to earn bread for their present support.

Immediate relief being thus afforded to the indigent, the next consideration of the Committee was for a method to employ the poor and pay them out of the donations in such a manner, as that returns might be made into the common stock, which might serve for their future employ and maintenance. The best plan of this sort, in the opinion of the Committee, was the erecting a brick yard on part of the Town's land, well adapted for such a purpose. Accordingly application was forthwith made, and leave obtained from the Town, for the laying out such a yard on the Neck; and the making of bricks therein now employs upwards of an hundred poor every day. These bricks, when burnt, the Committee intend to sell at the best price they can obtain, and the money arising from the sale will be again improved in some way the most likely to keep the poor from the distresses of hunger and the temptations of idleness.

The Committee have agreed to build a house for sale, as soon as materials can be collected, (which however is extremely difficult, considering the tenor and mode of putting in execution the Boston Port-Act,) and several vessels will be set up as soon as the common stock shall be sufficient for the work.

In order to make the employment of the poor as universal as possible, the Committee have purchased wool, flax and cotton, to be distributed to spinners and knitters in the Town, and looms are erecting for weaving baizes, cotton and linen.

The Committee also distribute leather to the shoemakers and take their manufacture in pay and with them also pay day laborers.

The Committee are in expectation of nail rods and other raw materials, with

which they hope to employ the blacksmiths and some other tradesmen, in the severities of the winter.

The Committee have given the above account of their doings, for the satisfaction of the public, and flatter themselves it will meet with the approbation of the generous benefactors to this grievously oppressed and suffering people. The Committee attend every day upon the business of their appointment; almost the whole of their time is taken up in the discharge of their trust. They have no motive to encourage them in their labors, but the hopes of doing good in this day of their country's trial and calamity. They shall consider themselves as happy if they answer the end of their appointment. That they may attain this end, they ask the advice of the wise and good, and shall ever consider the counsel of friends to the common cause as deserving their thanks and most mature consideration.

The Committee take this opportunity to inform the world and especially their munificent benefactors, that the House of Representatives, at their last session, having recommended to the Province to make collections for the poor of Boston and Charlestown, suffering by occasion of the before-mentioned Act, the Town of Boston early passed a vote, that seven per cent. of all donations transmitted to this town should be delivered to our brethren of Charlestown, who are mutually supposed injured in that proportion by the Boston Port-Act.

The regular Overseers of the Poor of this Town still continue their usual care and supply of the town poor, while this Committee confine (as much as possible) their attention and relief to such as are reduced to severe sufferings by the measures of the present administration of Britain, and the grievous mode of carrying those measures into execution.



Boston, January 13.

The printers in this and the other American Colonies are requested to insert the following in their several News Papers.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The Committee appointed by the Town of Boston, to receive and distribute donations for the charitable purpose of relieving and employing the sufferers by means of the Act of Parliament commonly called the Boston Port-Bill, from a due regard to their own characters, and that of the Town under whose appointment they act, as well as for the sake of the said sufferers, who depend upon the continual beneficence of their friends for necessary relief; think themselves obliged, in this public manner, to contradict a slanderous report raised by evil minded persons, spread in divers parts of this Province, and perhaps more extensively through the continent. The report is, that "each Member of the Committee is allowed six shillings, and, as some say, half a guinea, for every day's attendance; besides a commission upon all the donations received, and other emoluments for their trouble." The Committee, therefore, thus openly declare, that the above mentioned report is in every part of it groundless and false; and that they have hitherto attended and acted in their office, and still continue so to do, without any intention, hope, or desire, of receiving any other reward in this life, but the pleasure which results from a consciousness of having done good.—So satisfied are they of their own *disinterested* motives and conduct in this regard, that they can safely appeal to the Omniscient Being for their sincerity in this declaration.

And whereas the Committee have this evening been informed, by a letter from the country, of another report equally injurious, viz. that "the Committee have

employed poor persons in working for themselves, and gentlemen of fortune with whom they are particularly connected in their private concerns, and paid them out of the donations received;" the Committee do, with the same solemnity, declare the said report to be as false as it is scandalous.

They were early apprehensive that the enemies of *Truth* and *Liberty*, would spare no pains to misrepresent their conduct and asperse their characters; and therefore, that they might always have it in their power to vindicate themselves, they have constantly kept regular books, containing records of the whole of their proceedings; which books, as the Committee advertised the public some months ago, are open for the inspection of such as are inclined to look into and examine them.

The Committee now challenge any person whatever, to make it appear, that there is a just foundation for such reports. Until this reasonable demand is complied with, they confide in the justice of the public, that no credit will be given to reports, so injurious to the Committee, and to this oppressed and insulted people.

If the friends of truth will inform the Committee of any reports they may hear, tending to defame the Committee, and by that means to discourage further donations for the benevolent purpose of relieving the sufferers above-mentioned, it will be acknowledged as a particular favor.

Sign'd by Order of the Committee,

SAMUEL ADAMS, *Chairman*.

At a meeting of the Committee, January 20, 1775.

A
N A R R A T I V E
Of The **Planting** of the **Massachusetts**
C O L O N Y
Anno 1628. With the LORDS Signal
Presence the First Thirty
Y E A R S.

Also a Caution from New-Englands *APOSTLE*,
the G R E A T

C O T T O N,
How to Escape the Calamity, which might
Befall them or their *POSTERITY*.
And Confirmed by the *EVANGELIST*

N O R T O N
With Prognosticks from the *FAMOUS*
Dr. O W E N.

Concerning the Fate of these Churches, and Animadversions
upon the Anger of God, in sending of Evil Angels
among us.

*Published by Old Planters, the Authors of the Old
Mens Tears.*

Psalm 78. 2. 3. 4. *I will utter dark sayings of Old. Which we have heard and known
and our Fathers have told us, &c.*

Jer. 6. 16. *Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths,
where is the good way, & walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls; but they said,
we will not walk therein.*

Boston Printed and Sold by Benjamin Harris, at the
sign of the BIBLE over against the *Blew-Anchor*. 1694.

THIS reprint of Scottow's Narrative is made from the copy in the Society's Library. This, however, has an imperfect title-page ; and the latter has been supplied from a copy owned by the American Antiquarian Society, at Worcester, which was kindly loaned for the purpose by S. F. Haven, Esq., the Librarian. A Memoir of Scottow, with an account of his writings, will be found in these Collections, 2d Series, Vol. iv. R. F., JR.

To the Honourable
Simon Broadstreet Esq.

Late GOVERNOUR of the
Massachusetts - Colony.

Honoured Sir ;

T*HE Long Experience of your being the only Surviving Antiquary of us Nov-Angles, the Prime Secretary and Register of our civil and sacred Records, and the Bifronted Janus who saw the Closure of the Old, and the Overture of this New-Albion World. One who in your Juvenile strength ingaged your All, to Raise and Build up the Arduous & Hazzardous Structure, of this then despised and despicable Fabrique ; so as its observers said of it, what will these Feeble men Build, if a Fox go up, he shall even break down the stone-wall : of which themselves, and all its Spectators must now say, Lo, what hath God done ?*

That the Great GOD did then select and adapt Your Person, and Enrowle your Name among the Nursing Fathers of this his Out-cast Sion, whose Names are imbalmed to Eternity : that you have through nine hard Apprentiships, of above sixty years durance, in the service of your Generation, and faithful discharge of that trust for so long a season, as hath Rendred you a MOOT-MAN, and dignified with the highest Honour, this people were capable to confer.

Whither should this narrow Narrative go, to make its address for Patronage, and Avowry of its verity, but to Your Honours feet, there to Prostrate, and submit it self to the touch and test of the Lydian Stone thereof, its substance being extracted out of the

Records, and the rest founded upon the Publishers certaine knowledge and observation.

As for the Censure of the whole or part, to be the Delyrious dotage of Bis Puerile and Superannuated Brains, let such please to satisfy themselves with their own Speculations.

But for Your Venerable Self, that the Ancient of days, and the God of the Spirits of all flesh, would please to renew Your Age as the Eagles, so as You may be Our New-England Nestor, that the decays of Your outward may be made up by recruits of fresh Anointing from Above upon Your Inner man, that Your Dayes may be prolonged, to remain in the Lyst of those who actually are, Our Fathers, Our Fathers, the Chariots of our Israel, and the Horsemen thereof, and until you are become a full, ripe Sheaf, fit to be safely laid up in your Lord & Masters Garner. Is the Daily Prayer of,

Your Honours Humble,

and Obliged

Servant,

J. S.



A

NARRATIVE

Of the Planting of the
Massachusetts-Colony &c.

THE Late Series of Divine Dispensations tending not only to the dissolving of the Cement, but to the subverting of the Basis of that Fabrick which the Wonderful Worker hath here so stupendiously erected, nor to the Cropping off their Branches, but to the Rooting up of the tender Plant, which the Heavenly Father, here so graciously hath Planted; hath put some of the Old Relict Planters, upon *smiting on our thighs*, and serious considerations of what provoking evils we have committed, and what special sins, God now would bring to our Remembrance, whereby we have so highly displeased our Benign God, and Gracious Father, thus tremendously to treat us: the Aspect of Providence so terribly varying, from what formerly it was wont to be, puts us into an amusing amazement. And being in this perplexed Labyrinth, of Distracting thoughts of heart, there was darted into our Meditations, a Caution which above Eight Septenaries of Years past, came from the first Scraphical Doctor of *Boston* Church. Mr. *John Cotton*, whose name in Churches is as Ointment powred forth, and if the word of his successor may pass for Current, he was the greatest Luminary in our *New England Orbs*, and a great *Prophet*, and the truth is, the most intelligent of those times took them both for no less; he in his funeral *Elegy* upon his Death gave him both these titles, and Descanting upon Gods Magnifying him in his sickness, not only in the sight of this *Israel*, but of the great part of the discerning world, by setting up a Cælestial Flambeau in the Starry Region, whither a Signal Minatory or Monitory, (it may be both)

the next age will better know, it directly followed the Reer of the Pleiades, in the Rising Progress and setting of the Seven Stars, as if it had steer'd their Course, as the most strict observers took notice of: he himself on his death bed, being Informed of it, replied, that it did portend to the state of these Churches: this Comet appeared not only in the time of his sickness, but until his interment, and then disappeared, thereby Performing the Honourable Respects of those Stately Obsequies, which are only due, and not done to any, but to Persons of greatest honour, as to the Princes, Notables, and Scavants of the times, had there but a shadow of the least Pretext to such a thing, befalln the Ignatian, *Peter Cotton*, the Famed Jesuite, in his life or death, it had been beyond dispute that his Preference in their Rubricke, or Saints Calender had been before *Loyala* their first Founder.

This Worthy man of God's successor, Reverend *Norton* thus versified of him.

*This Prophet's dead now must in's Doctrine speak,
This Comet saith, Else Must New-England break.*

How near *New-England* now is to its breaking, the all-knowing One only knows; but the muteness of this Prophets Doctrine, is with all solemnity and sadness of soul to be Lamented.

This Venerable Seer, whose method was to go through the Books of Scripture, he Entred upon, and had in his Ministerial Course in both *Bostons* been (lengthened out to little less then forty years) went through near the whole Bible, he was then upon *Acts 7.* concerning *Stephens* Discourse before the Council, about the History of *Israel*, the Church in the Wilderness, taking up the Tabernacle of *Molock*, and the Star of their God *Remphan*; Figures which they made to Worship: whereupon Gods Threatning immediately followed. *And I will carry you away beyond Babilon.* Shewing that this provocation was so great, as God then threatned them with the *Babyonian* Captivity, which befel their Posterity divers hundred years after; he notified the time when, the place where, and the persons

threatned were Gods Covenant People ; whence he observed to this purpose.

That Gods Covenant People, or their Children, might in their first beginnings be left to do such things, as might bring a future grievous Calamity upon them.

He shewed as this people being Gods *Israel*, did thus in their March through the Wilderness into the Land of *Canaan*, not many years after their Departure from *Egypt*, their *House of Bondage* ; so might any other Covenant People be left to do.

In the Application of this Doctrine, he was assisted with that Presence of Spirit, and pressed it upon his Auditors with its Divine Authority, that as Goads and Nails, it Entered from that Master of the Assembly, and was fastned from the one Shephcard. Such was the attention, and its Efficacy upon the Hearers, (words from the heart entred into their hearts) so as upon Repitition of the Sermon at home, they coming warmed with its heavenly heat, concluded their *John* was in the Spirit *that Lords day*.

This Prophet is Dead, *and our Fathers where are they ?* Yet the words then spoken, left such a Convincing Impress upon our hearts and Souls, as is not obliterated to this day, and in this Hour of Distress, Trouble, and Consternation, is now revived, when as Heaven, Earth, and Hell seem to Conspire to Accomplish the Threatning then Denounced.

The Great God being now upon searching our *Jerusalem* with Candles, should put each individual sensible Soul, with the Candle of the Lord, to make diligent and sincere Inquiry into the most inward and secret recesses in the Chambers of his Imagery, yea into the closest Tills, and Cachotes of a deceitful and desperately wicked heart ; and after all to Beg of him, *whose Eyes are as a Flame of Fire*, that he would Search, Try, and Know it, and that he would shew, and make us all to know every winding, and wicked way, *and lead in the way Everlasting* ; that he who is *holy in all his Ways, and righteous in all his Works*, the great Revealer of Secrets, would take off the Veil, which hides the *Mystery of Iniquity* in our Souls, that there may be a clear discovery of the *Troubler of our Israel*, the Inward Viceroy, the Judge, Jury, and Witness within us, their

Verdict and Sentence passing against us: God who is greater than our Conscience will condemn us much more.

That we and our Fathers have Sinned, is out of doubt, but whether we or our Fathers are the meritorious and procuring causes of what we are now groaning under, is that which remains under question, we hope in the sequel of this Script, as to vindicate the Equity of Gods Wayes towards our Fathers, and ourselves, so in our weak measure to convince us of the Iniquity of our wayes against the Lord, that we shall see just cause to condemn our selves, as the procurers of all the deep displeasure we now bleed under.

In order whereunto, it may be requisite to Recollect what our Fathers have told us, and what we have seen; and shall present a maniple of the unaccountable Sheaves of Divinely Beneficent Bounties granted unto our Fathers, and their graceful Returns unto the Divine Majesty. It's great pitty before the present Generation pass off the Stage of Action, that there should not be a compleat History laid up in our Archivis.

It was an Ordinance of old, to Commemorate the Political Birth and Growth of a People, it may not (we hope) be unbeseeeming us, to give a small account of the Genesis of this superhumane and really Divine Creation, wrought by the admirable Architect, who manifest himself most Illustriously Great in the Minimes of Created Beings.

This Colonies Foundation was not laid, by exhausting the Exchequers of Princes, Peers, or Lords of the Realm, nor by Lotteries, and such like Contrivances of Advance, as other *English* Plantations have been.

It was incomparable Minute, to what its now attain'd unto, and the rather to be observed, because of the great opposition, from those of strength it first met with, its growth must be assigned to Heavens Influence, and Blessing: It evidently proceeded from Him who rais'd up the Righteous man from the East, and called him to his Foot; the sudden mover and incliner of Hearts, both infused and guided the inclinations and motions of these worthy Patriots, with their Associates, who either attended, or followed them in great measure, parallel to that of the *Father of the*

Faithful, who upon a Divine Call, left Kindred, Country and Fathers House, and went he knew not whether, to Enjoy he knew not what, both proceeding from the same Inspiration, and Instinct, drawn by the Magnetick Influence of the same Holy Spirit, and as it were by the impulse of a sacred Charm or Spell, as by its operation appeared, as if a Royal Herald, through our Nation from *Barwick* to *Cornwell* had made Proclamation, to Summon and Muster up Volunteers, to appear in *New England*, for His Sacred Majesties Service, there to attend further Orders: Such was the *Day of Christ's Power*, as an incredible number of Willing People, forthwith Listed themselves; yea many of those whose Faces were unknown to each other; the hearts of multitudes in this Design responded, as Face to Face in Water; thus the Body of this People was animated as with one soul.

That this Design was Super-humane, will be evidenced by the *Primum Mobile*, or grand Wheel thereof. Neither Spanish Gold or Silver, nor *French* or *Dutch* Trade of Peltry did Oil their Wheels; it was the Propagation of Piety and Religion to Posterity; and the secret Macedonean Call, COME OVER AND HELP US, afterward Instamp'd in the Seal of this Colony, the Setting up of Christ's Kingdom among the Heathens, in this Remote End of the Earth, was the main spring of motion, and that which gave the Name to *New-England*, and at such a time, when as Divine *Herbert* in his Temple Prophetically sang.

*Religion Stands on Tiptoe in our Land,
Ready to pass to the American Strand.*

The agency of the great God appeared, who never lets any of his works, fall for want of materials or instruments, he raised up such as were fit to lead, and feed this People in this wilderness, such were our Famous Founders, we had our *Mose's*, and *Aaron's*, our *Zorobabels*, and *Joshua's*, our *Ezrah's*, and *Nehemiahs*, so many Noble spirited persons, fitted and called of God, raised up to this great service, both to the Civil and Sacred Administration, to the Cure and Care of this flock in this wilderness.

Men of narrow spirits, of mean Capacities, and fortunes,

had not been capable to officiate in so great a worke, that such, and so many Gentlemen of Ancient and Worshipful Families, of Name and Number, of Character and Quality, should Combine and Unite in so desperate and dangerous a Design, attended with such insuperable Difficulties, and Hazards, in the plucking up of their Stakes, leaving so pleasant and profitable a place as their Native Soil, parting with their Patrimonies, Inheritances, plentiful Estates, and settlement of Houses well Furnished; of Land well Stock'd, and with comfortable ways of Subsistence, which the first Planters Deserted; and not a few did leave all their worldly hopes, to come into this Desert, & unknown Land, and smoaky Cottages, to the Society of Cursed Cannibals, (as they have proved to be) and at best wild Indians; what less then a Divine Ardour could inflame a People thus circumstanced to a work so contrary to Flesh and Blood.

Infinite Wisdom and Prudence contrived and directed this Mysterious Work of Providence, Divine Courage and Resolution managed it, Superhumane Sedulity and Diligence attended it, and Angelical Swiftmess and Dispatch finished it; Its Wheels stirr'd not, but according to the HOLY SPIRITS motion in them; yea there was the Involvement of a Wheel within a Wheel: God's Ways were a Great Depth, and high above the Eagle or Vulturous Eye; and such its Immensity as mans Cockle-shell is infinitely unable to Emptie this Ocean.

Let us Commemorate their *Exodus* or Departure from our Nation. These Prudent Undertakers sent forth their *Forlorn Hope* in two ships, Laden with Passengers, and Servants: two years before they mov'd with their main Body, and Pattent Government, which were fully Furnished with a Pastor and Teacher, worthy *Higgison* and *Skelton*, and all Materials, for Compleating of a Church of Christ, according to Divine Institution: Who safely Arriving according to their predeterminate Design of Inlargement of Christ's Kingdom, and His Majesty of *England's* Dominion: Firstly, they set up their Standards, Dethroning Satan, they cast him out of Heaven; which beyond times memorial, he had in the Natives Consciences, and by Turf and Twig they took possession of this his large Continent,

and set up the first Church in these parts, in a place they then called *Salem*; at which Convention, the Testimony which the Lord of all the Earth bore unto it, Major General *Gibbins*. is wonderfully memorable, by a Saving Work upon a Gentleman of Quality, who afterwards was the Chieftain and Flower of *New-England's* Militia, and an Eminent Instrument both in Church and Commonwealth; he being the younger Brother of the House of an Honourable Extract, his Ambition exceeding what he could expect at home, Rambled hither: Before one Stone was laid in this Structure, or our Van-Currier's Arrival, he was no Debauchee, but of a Jocund Temper, and one of the Merry Mounts Society, who chose rather to Dance about a *May pole*, first Erected to the Honour of *Strumpet Flora*, than to hear a good Sermon; who hearing of this Meeting, though above Twenty Miles distant from it, and desirous to see the Mode and Novel of a Churches Gathering; with great studiousness, he applied himself to be at it; where beholding their orderly procedure, and their method of standing forth, to declare the Work of God upon their Souls, being pricked at the Heart, he sprung forth among them, desirous to be one of the Society, who though otherwise well accomplished, yet divinely illiterate, was then convinc'd and judged before all; the secrets of his heart being made manifest, fell down and Worshipped God, to their astonishment, saying, *That God was in them of a Truth*; the Verity hereof, as long since it hath been affirmed by old Planters, so by his own Manuscript, found after his Death it's confirmed; he about that time Lamenting his Christless Estate, which evidenceth that it ought to be said of that Sion, *This man was Born there*.

One winter after these good spies had viewed this Land, who sent letters of the prosperous good hand of Providence upon them, the taste of the fruits of this Countrie, was sweeter, and more welcome to their Principalls in *England*, then the Grapes of *Eschol* were to *Israel* of old.

The Leaders of this People upon serious debate, drew up a Determination to settle the Corporation, and government, upon the Place: and accordingly made Choice of a Governour and Deputy to abide there, which being effected,

and Divinely directed in such a Choice of the Governour, the Famous Pattern of Wisdom, Justice and Liberality, and of a Deputy Governour, who by his Experience at Home, and Travels Abroad, with his Natural and Acquired Abilities, was a Gentleman qualified above others, for the chief Rule and Government, wherein according to his just Deserts, he shared more than others; the Fame whereof being come abroad in the Nation, to such whose hearts God had touched; this being upon the wing, there wanted not number of Persons of all Occupations, skill'd in all Faculties, needful for the Planting of a Collony, who filled up a Fleet of Eleven Ships, of considerable Burthen, besides their attenders; some of them about Four Hundred Tuns, the rest not much inferiour; some carrying near Two Hundred Passengers, the rest proportionably; the Wheels of Providence were lifted up very high, and also were radiantly magnificent.

These Tarding Travellers Removal, carrying so great a Resemblance of Departure into another World, they were not stupid Stoicks, but abounded with that which Grace doth not destroy, but direct: What showers of melting Tears dropt into the Bosomes of each other, whose *Souls* as *Jonathan* and *David* clave one to another, yet alleviated with consideration; though they were *Absent in Body, yet Present in Spirit*, and of their mutual access to the Throne of Grace, and of *Meeting at the Assembly of the First-born, and Spirits of Just Men made Perfect*. Some of their choice Friends, as the Reverend Mr. *Cotton*, and others, went along with them from *Boston* in *Lincolnshire*, to *Southampton*, where they parted, and he Preacht his Farewel Sermon.

That so many Eminent Persons, some of Noble Extract, should upon Sea-Bridges, pass over the largest Ocean in the Universe, by the good hand of their God upon them, having sought of him a right way for themselves, Little Ones, and Substance; yea above Three Thousand in one Year, and that above Three Hundred Ships since that time; all laden with Jewels of Invaluable Value, far above the Gold of *Ophir*, that each individual one should have a Cælestial Convoy, under the Flaming Swords of Flying Cherubims,

Cherubims, turning every way, to keep them in their way, so as they all at their Port safely Arrived : Not one Foundered in the Sea, Split upon Rocks, were suckt in by Sands, Over-set by sudden Gusts, nor Taken and Plundered by Pirates or Robbers, except one called the Angel *Gabriel*, whose Tutular Guardian Ship failed (if any Aboard put trust therein) she was Laden with Passengers for *Boston*, but put in at *Pemiquil*, where the Ship and whole Cargo perished, but not one Soul of Scamen, or Passengers miscarried ; they met with an Hurricane, before or since not known in this Country, Raised by the Power of him, who holds the Wind in his Hand, and Commissioneth the Prince of the Air, by Raising *Stormy Winds to fulfil his Word* ; it's said, the Tide rose Twenty Foot perpendicular, above its ordinary height. The same time, another great Ship, Laden with Passengers was wonderfully preserved, when as ready to be Split in pieces upon Rocks at the *Isle of Shoals* ; at the Prayer of the distressed Saints Aboard, God caused the Winds to Vere a Point or two about the Compass, so as she cleared them, & they were saved ; *in the Mount the Lord was seen* ; in this Ship was the Reverend Mr. *Mather*, three or four of his Sons, and whole Family, with a multitude of other precious Souls, among whom was the Worthy *Jonathan Mitchel*, then being a Lad.

The like Salvation about the same time was vouchsafed to a great Ship Laden with Passengers, Bound for *New-England*, the Famous *Norton*, and Great *Shepherd*, with their Wives, were Aboard of her : They were forced back from the Channel, into *North-Yarmouth* Road, where, though the Wind was off the Shoar, the Storm was so violent, as all their Anchors and Cables would not bring her up, and being in great danger of Foundering in the Sands, they were forced to cut both Main Mast, and Fore Mast by the Board, with Sails and Rigging ; this *Paul* and *Silas*, while able to stand, went from Cabbin to Cabbin to Encourage and Pray with the Distressed Passengers, and Seamen, who by one Wave were washed Over-board, and the next Wave threw them Aboard again ; there was great Crying out then, *What shall we do to be Saved ?* At the Prayers of these Men of God, this Ship and every Soul Aboard was given them ; the next Day they all Landed safe,

safe, and as soon as Ashoar, two Vipers designed not only to Leap upon the hands of them both, but to seiz their Persons; but how strangely preserved is not unknown to some of us; though the House was beset by them, when as they were at a pious Meeting, (then called a Conventicle.) Next year they Arrived all safe at *Boston*; the Ship for that year was Disinabled.

Ought we not now to cry out, considering the Circumstances, Oh! *The Wheel, the Wheel*, He who sits upon the Throne, appeared with the Rainbow about his Head, and the Spirit of the Living Creatures was in the Wheels, from their Original Motion.

The Waves obeyed the Voice, and the Wind fulfilled the Pleasure of the Lord of the Universe, so as the first whole Fleet Arrived safe in a small time, without Loss of any but of one person.

These Nobly Grateful Passengers, appointed and set apart a Day of Thanksgiving to the Almighty God, for the great Goodness and mighty Works they had seen in their Voyage, and with *Noahs* Dove, having found rest for the soles of their Feet, marched forth from their Floating Arks, and Celebrated the High Praises of him, who had thus graciously and wonderfully safe guarded them, and Landed them; *They Sang the Song of Moses, and of the Lamb*, whom they in this Voyage had followed, and now paid their Vows to God to Serve him, and to Build him an Habitation, and according to the Examples of *Noah* and *Abraham*, who upon their safe Landing and Arrival, each built an Altar to *Jehova*, so they (being content with Huts and smoaky Cottages) first applied themselves to Build the Lord an Habitation, before they set up their own Houses, and Joined in Church-Fellowship, setting up the King of *Sions* Throne, in his Order and Worship; having six Eminent Ministers, who came along with them, and divers Hundreds of Choice Materials. Thus far an Abbreviate of this Colonies Foundation, and manner of its Laying.

The good News from this far Country, and from these men of Desires, being carried into *England*, was as Cold Waters to a thirsty Soul; the Stile of their Letters was so full of Divine Gravity, and of a Gracious Savour, so grateful to those of full Age, who by reason of Use, had their
Senses

Senses exercised, to discern both good and evil, as it put them upon study, to increase their Number, stirring up each other to get among them to *New-England*.

The Grace powred into the Hearts and Lips of these first Planters, dropt down into Pens of private Christians, like sweet smelling Myrrh, so as they began their Letters with Apostolical Benediction, and concluded them with Salutations; a Letter then from *New-England*, and for a considerable time after, was Venerated as a Sacred Script, or as the Writing of some Holy Prophet, 'twas carried many Miles, where divers came to hear it, because the *Savour of Christ's Name was as good Oyntment powred forth, therefore the Virgins Lov'd Him*; and a multitude of pious Souls through the whole Nation, were in their Spirits pressed to Joyn in this Work, so as their Malignant Observers in their Words and Writings, Rendred them: *Furijs Religionis Acti*: Men acted by *Religious Furies*, and the Festuss's of those Times, declared them to be persons Distracted, saying of their much Religion, as he said of Pauls much Learning, that it had made them mad.

In a short time after their Arrival, a Snake crept forth, which lay Latent in the Tender Grass, one who pretended himself a Religious Reformado, and to withdraw from the Noise of Secular Affairs, came over in the first Fleet, he offered to Joyn in Church-Fellowship here, but was refused upon suspicion to be what indeed he proved to be, *viz* a Roman Catholick, and of such Note among them, as he had at *Jerusalem* Received the Orders of the Knighthood, (there called the Holy Sepulchre) which Order he appeared to be of, by Letters intercepted, sent by a man of Place in *England*, a profest Enemy to this Colony; thus Satans Proto-Emissary against this People, was discovered in his prime Plot, and secret snare, who designed to smother this Embrio Colony, or to Strangle this Babe, not yet out of its Swadling Bands; for which Deliverance, high Praises were Celebrated to the Name of *Sions* Saviour.

Not long after, a desperate Myne was sprung by this Peoples Grand Adversary, according to Advice of a Politician elsewhere, to Blow up Religion, by Religion, Encouraging

aging the Liberty this People had obtained to Leave their Nation, saying, Let them go, by their Parties and Factions, as their Brethren at *Leyden* and *Amsterdam* had done, so they would destroy each other; but the Lord most graciously Countermined it, for the Design of Both the Magistrates and Ministers, with the Body of this People, was not with the Rigid Separatists to Cast off all Communion with the Church of *England*, but to act the part of the good old Nonconformists, who though they could not Close with the Hierarchy, nor with the Corruptions in Discipline and Worship, yet in her Faith and Doctrine, they own'd her to be their Mother; and therefore having by Patent-Charter from His Majesty, a Grant to Remove, they peaceably Improved the same, and left their Native Land; and at their Departure, they drew up, and Published a Manifesto to the whole Nation, of the Grounds of this their Undertaking; not knowing, whether ever they should see Land, styling those whom they parted from, in their Superscription.

REVEREND FATHAERS
AND BRETHREN.

The Humble Request of His Majesties Loyal Subjects, The
GOVERNOUR and COMPANY of NEW-ENGLAND.

To the rest of their Brethren, in and of the Church of
England: For the obtaining of their Prayers, and Removal
of their Suspicions, and Misrepresentations of their Intentions,
&c.

LONDON, Printed for John Belamy, 1630.

Their subscription signed was

Your Assured Friends and Brethren,

John Winthrop Governour.

Richard Saltonstall.

Isaac Johnson.

Tho. Dudley Deputy Governour.

Charles Fines.

George Phillips.

Cum multis aliis.

From Yarmouth, Aboard the Arabella,
April 7th. 1630.

THESE Magnanimous Heroes, whose Memory is Blessed, whose Names not only during *New-England*, hath a Being, but shall be had in *Everlasting Remembrance*, they then declared.

Though there might be some among them otherwise minded, yet they were not of them, and desired Remembrance in their Prayers, (as above) in this their Dangerous Design.

Not long after this, Mr. Cottons Farewel Sermon (above mentioned) was Printed at London, and since Re-printed at Boston, Entituled, GODS PROMISE TO HIS PLANTATION, wherein he Exhorted them to Remember England, their Mother, and that they should not be like those Ingrateful Birds, who when they had Swum over a Stream or River, forgot the Wing that had Hatcht them.

The Serpent soon got into this Eden, and according to his Maxime acted, divide, and Overcome, he sow'd the Seed of Discord, & Division among us, so as this Heterodoxy was Preached publickly, that there was no Communion to be held with the Church of *England*; and that if any of our Church-members had transiently heard a Minister, which Conformed to the Church of *England*, without declaring Repentance for it, he was to be Excommunicated, and that no Communion was to be held, with any Unregenerate Person, that they ought not to Pray, or Crave a Blessing at Meals, before Wife, or any Relation Unconverted, of which Conversion their Opinion was the Test; and not only so, but that the Oath of Allegiance to His Majesty was not to be taken, nor was it lawful to take any other kind of Oath, because no Power to be Settled by Oath, but Christs Kingly Power only, and that our Pattent ought to be sent back to our King; nor ought we to have to do, therewith: Thus was *New-England* Attackt by Satan; and this from an Eminent Preacher, noted for Piety in his Life and Conversation, as his strictest Observers Characterised him. This Child of Light walked in Darkness about Forty Years, not only by Rejecting the Church of *England*, and its Baptism, but his second Baptism also.

Taking up the Seekers perswasion, looking for
 Mr. Roger new Apostles, yet did not his Root turn into
Williams. Rottenness, the Root of the Matter abode in
 him, as by his Faithful Defence of the Funda-
 mentals

mentals of Christian Religion, in a publick Dispute ; and about the Year 1677, putting out a Book against the Quakers : Thus the Lord infinite in Wisdom, and Goodness, disposed of Satans Malice, so as he was Out-shot in his own Bow, the Lord held the Magistracy and Ministry in Unity, according to the Integrity of their hearts, so as this small new Rigged Vessel was preserved against this violent Storm, which the Prince of Darkness Raised upon her at first setting forth, with Design to have Overset and Foundred her ; thus was Munificent Mercy magnified toward this People, when few in Number, and in their low Estate ; such was the conduct of our *Moses* and *Aaron*, that they kissed each other in the Mount of God.

The Report of this admirable Divine Presence with this People in their Civil and Sacred Administrations, Reach'd our Nation even to the astonishment of those who cast no good Eye upon us, but to the Encouragement of those otherwise minded, so as that the Well-affected came over as Clouds, and like Doves to their Windows ; such was their Increase, that in seven years time, the *Massachuset* Pattent could not contain them. This Vine spread forth her Branches on the other side of this Bay, to find a *Rehoboth* ; it's said that about this time, in Two Years there came over Seventy odd Ships, who one with another Transported an Hundred Passengers, to the astonishment of the sober part of our Nation. At which time, and before, as the Harvest was great & white, so the Lord thereof thrust forth not only Labourers, but multiplied *Aholiabs* and *Bezaliells*, Robbing our Nation, to supply this people with such as were filled with the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, in all Spiritual Skill, in the Structure and Furniture of this great Work, and about setting up the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and the Ark of the Testimony, according to the Pattern in the Mount, Of whom a Quaternion, viz. Mr. *Cotton*, Eminent for Spiritual Clothing, and *Mather* for Cælestial Dying, *Hooker* for Soul Fishing, *Stone* for Building up in the Holy Faith : three of whom came in the same Ship, and one of them not long after, with the Reverend *John Davenport*, the famous *Rogers* of *Rowley*, besides the Worthy First Fruits of *New-England* ; the Proto-Pastors and Teachers, whom our Pen fails to
Enumerate ;

Enumerate ; such was the Cloud of them who came over first and last ; seventy seven Ministers, and fourteen Young Students fit for the Ministry.

These voluntary Exiles for the Word of God, and Testimony of Jesus, having been under Exercise of Spirit, and Burthened by mens setting up their Posts and Thresholds, by Gods Posts and Thresholds ; and now Warmed by the Lively Sense of Gods preserving Goodness, and safe Landing of them, after a tedious passage some Encountred ; tho' some had but six Weeks, others Twenty and odd Weeks durance, yet without Loss or Famishing of one person ; all this while shut up, but Safeguarded about four inches distance from Death : These Votaries being under the fervour of their late Obligations, they Anointed *Jacobs* Pillar, then they had opportunity, and accordingly Bewail'd, and were ashamed of their Misdoings, begg'd pardon and assistance from the God of the Spirits of all Flesh, and direction from on High, to set up the Throne, and Place of the Soles of Christs Feet ; after solemn Imploring the Discovery of the Form, and Fashion of Gods House, the Comings in, and Goings out of the Church of God, which is the House of God, the Ground and Pillar of Truth ; they agreed upon the practice of that which is called the Way of the Congregational Churches, which for Thirteen Years together, they Walkt in the practice of, before the Synod further confirmed the same, as is afterwards notified ; which Doctrine and Practice, was Published to the Europæan World, in the Book of the *Keyes, and Vindication of the Way of the Congregational Churches in New-England*, pen'd by the Reverend Teacher of *Boston* Church, and other worthy Scripts, by divers Worthy Ministers of this Country, in Answer to the Reproach put upon Mr. *Samuel* them, by some Eminent Divines, elsewhere *Rutherford.* of another perswasion ; yet one of their In his *Spiritual Antichrist.* Chieftains for Piety and Learning, Declared in Print, his full Assent to the Book of the *Keyes*, in all its particularities, except in one punctilio about the power of Synods, which as he apprehended, the Book of the *Keyes* did too much streighten.

The Lords presence with our Fathers in their Civil and Sacred Concerns, signally appeared, with our Honourable

Counsellors, our *Prudent*, and *Ancient*, the *Mighty Man*, and the *Man of War*, the *Judge* and the *Prophet*, our *Princes* and our *Rulers*; though none of them a *General Governour*, yet as by some it hath been well observed, some of them were generally *Governours*, especially the first *Governour*, who in *Twenty Years* was above ten times *Governour*, & the first *Deputy Governour*, but little less: such was the deep *Humility* of these *Elevated Men*, that upon *Election Days*, they provoked the *Free-men*, to make use of their *Liberty* against their own intentions.

Never so small a spot of *Land*, was so highly favoured with such an *Aggregate* of *Men*, of such *Abilities* in *Divine* and *Humane Learning*, as *New-England* then was; so as upon the *Emergency* of the *Reverend Mr. Wilson*, first *Pastor* of *Boston Church*, *Return* into *England*, he with consent of his *Church*, left the care of his *Flock* to *Mr. Winthrop*, and *Mr. Dudley*, they being then the much *Honoured Governour*, and *Deputy Governour* of this *People*, who both accepted, and perform'd this *Charge*: Knowing well, that the *Princes* of *Juda* in *King Hezekiah's* *Reign*, were appointed to *Teach* the *People* in the *Law* of *God*: And it's certainly *Recorded*, That above an *Hundred Years* before that time, there were five *Pastors* in the *Reformed Church* at *Orleans* in *France* at one time, the major part of whom were *Lords*, and *Barons* of the *Nation*; so high an *Estimate* was then put upon this *Sacred Function*.

Besides their *Dexterity* in *Handling* of the *Civil*, and the *Lords Two-Edged Sword*; it's not to be forgotten, (though above seven times seven years since) the skill they were accomplish'd with, & was shown in their being *Versed* in the use of the *Military Sword*, at *Fox-Hills*. *Fort Action*, where they as two *Tactiques*, set their *Armies* in *Battle Array*, each appearing *General* in the *Head* of a *Body*, at *Boston*, where all the *Cavalry* and *Infantry* of the *Country* appeared; shewing such real *Discipline* in their *Field Exercise*, by rowling *Trenches* making their *Approaches*, and assaying the *Fort*, & by orderly *sallies*, defending the same together with a *Naval Combate* on both sides, such as in none of the *Gallantry*, & *Bravery* of all our *General Traynings* since did appear; thus the *Motions*
of

of the Wheels were very high and terrible to our Adversaries, and so were the Rings and Wheels of Providence full of Eyes, to supply all our wants, so as when this People, though never reduced to Famine, yet oft to short Commons; so as when Bread failed, Fish and Herbs was very good Fare.

Then not only *Dutch* Ships were sent in with Sheep, Kine, and Mares, to compleat our Farms and Husbandry; but rather then Christs little Flock, who had followed him into this Wilderness, (upon the hearing of his voice) should want, their good Shepherd Spirited the great *Strafford*, and Lord Deputy of *Ireland*, and Commissioned him to be their Purveyor, out of his *Irish Stalls*, and Stores to supply their Tables; yea, such was Christs pastoral respects to them, least they should be neglected: The said Lord *Strafford* must Buy a Ship of Burthen, Lade her, and Transport it to them at his own Cost.

There wanted not Observers of this Peoples Methods and Measures, who failed not to misrepresent the General Muster before mentioned, and all other their Actions, who rendred us, that as we had cast off the Yoke of Episcopacy, so we designed to cast off our Allegiance and Loyalty to His Majesties Crown and Dignity, which never entred into the Hearts of our Grave Sages; they knew better then so, that under God it was their only shield and buckler, against all violent Intruders, and especially the *French*, who at our Arrival here, were not Seiz'd of *Accady*, then called *Nova-Scotia*; our Brethren of *Scotland*, were then possessed of *Port-Royal*, and above two years after, they having Built a Fort there, but the *French* purchasing it of the *Scots*, possessed it, and would then own no *N. Engl.* and justified their Kings Claims to all the Continent on this side *Virginia*. The *French* Governour at *Port Royal* Address his Letters to our Governour to Monsieur Monsieur *J. W. Governour of the English at Boston in Accady*; and in his Subscription styled himself *D. C. Governour of Accady*; thereby declaring unto us, That we improved his Masters Dominions. The *Dutch* on the other side claimed *Connecticut*, and had there set up a Fort, and Trading House in that River, so as we were surrounded with bad Neighbours.

This

This Misprision so far prevailed, as a Formidable Machine was formed against this Country, not to put a demurr or cessation to their proceedure, but to subvert and overthrow this Colonies Foundation, so miraculously Founded and Multiplied ; so as the Pattent was call'd in, and sent for to be delivered up ; a New Commission and Regulation drawn up confirmed, and sent over ; whereby this People after all Difficulties, and Dangers of Transplanting themselves, and settlement here, were reduced to harder measure, then if they had not left their Nation, altho' upon as great security as could humanely be given.

Then all our worthy Patriots, in each pollity, *Zorobbabel*, and *Jehoshua*, and all the People of the Land, being deeply affected, afflicted, and sorely distressed, they first Address the Divine Throne, where this halting *Jacob*, upon his Wrastling with the Angel of the *Covenant*, found Grace with him, that his Name was then changed into *Israel*, and had power from him so that prevailing with God, he also prevailed with man.

They Supplicated our gracious King, and the Lords Commissioners of the Forreign Plantations, prostrating themselves at His Majesties Foot-stool: *Besought that they might be made the Objects of his Royal Clemency, that this poor Plantation which had found so much favour from God, more then others, might not find the less from man*: The Kings heart being in the Hand of the Lord, was turned about as Rivers of Waters ; so as this Weapon Formed against this people prospered not, and by Divine Hand was broken ; as well as a great Ship new Built purposely to have brought over, the Artificers and Managers of this Engine, whose Back was after a strange manner broken on the Stocks ; so as this Tool for about Forty Years was laid aside ; and then for our Iniquities, was new Forged, Furbished, and took effect ; in which time, incredible was the Increase of His Majesties Subjects in this his Dominion, being Sown with the Seed of Man and Beast, to the Honour of our God, King, and Nation, far exceeding the Number which the Exchequer of any Potentate in *Europe* could have Effected : God then said, this shall not be ; for which an Altar was erected, *Jehova Nissi*, The Hand upon the Throne.

Satan

Satan being Dispossessed of so great a part of his Dominion, attempts its recovery, by stirring up the Pequods, who were the Terror of all the Salvages, in these Parts, who to the Glory of *Israels* God, and the Natives Amazement, in a little above one years time were Destroyed; this *Amaleck* fell upon our Rere in our Feeble Estate, *Moses* Hands being held up by *Aaron* and *Hur*, *Joshua* obtained a great Victory: Our Fathers Cryed unto God, who heard them, and they were saved; this Pequod *Amalecks* Name (according to Gods Oath,) hath been ever since blotted out from under our Heaven. Thus was the Lord his Peoples Banners.

The Dragons old indefatigable Malice appeared, in a most subtile Stratagem contrived, by letting out of his Mouth a Flood to Drown the Woman and Male Child, fled into this Wilderness to be fed; which made this little World groan to see it self surrounded with Familestical & Antinomian Heresies & Errors; this chiefly befel *Boston* and its Vicinity, which Church Glorifying in their Candlestick, being furnished with two such Burning and Shining Lights, a Pastor and Teacher, who for Love and Light Out-shined all others; and in the Gifts of Knowledge and Utterance of divers of their Brethren; the Serpents subtilty shew'd it self in a Multitudinarism of Questions, started under pretence of seeking Light; Error cloath'd it self under disguise of Truth by pretext of Magnifying Grace, it was turned into Wantonness, and all this under the Umbrage of their Teacher, who tho' he had Sown only good Seed in Gods Field, yet the Enemy came and sowed Tares; as he upon a Fast-Day in *Boston* Church, before the Country, vindicated himself; that whilst men slept, this mischief was done, which was the Subject of that days Discourse, and he discriminated between them, openly declaring, what good Seed he had Sown, and its dissimilitude from the Tares which the Enemy had Sown, proving by *Jerom* & Authentick Authors, That the Tares in *Judea*, were so like the Wheat, that until the Harvest, without great difficulty they could be distinguished; thus Hells Cataracts were set open, and a multitude of Errors then were broached, to the hazard of the ruine of the Churches, with many Heresies destroying the Foundation; but as of
old,

old, when Arrianism prevailed, the Earth helpt the Woman; so many took opportunity to greaten their outward Estates, whatever befel them upon any other account; oh! That men would praise the Lord for his Goodness, and for the Work of this Sions Saviour in delivering from this Master-plot of Hell, who designed the ruine of these Churches and People; but by Divine Benediction upon the measures taken by Magistrates in the Court, and the Elders and Churches in the Synod, that was prevented which threatned the Destruction of all, but chiefly of *Boston*.

The Churches and people of *New-England* had for a considerable time, Enjoyed Peace and Rest, Trade at Home, and Traffick Abroad, they greatned their Estate by Building small Vessels, and some considerable Ships, Transporting of Timber for the *Indies* and *Islands*, tho' not without Alarms from the Indians, and other Afflictive Providences, the Lord took us into his Fatherly Hand, by Droughts, Blasts upon *English* Grain; yea, by Feavers, and Small-pox, and with one great Fire; but in the interim, being without any Adversary or such evil Occurrent, they lookt at it as a Duty incumbent upon them, to draw up a Plat-Form of Discipline, and Church-Government, which might be laid as a Foundation for the Generations to come: And the rather, because the Way they practised, was questioned by some, whether it was agreeable to the Rule of Gods Word, whereupon a Bill was drawn up by the General Court, for Assembling of a Synod; after debate, it was agreed unto, and accordingly a Synod of Elders and Brethren, according to the first President of a Synod or Council Recorded in the Sacred Leaves of the Acts and Monuments of the Apostles who Assembled at *Jerusalem*; these did Convene, to whom we may assign, as hath been Observed by one of Note in the Churches of Christ: *That as these had shewn more Love and Zeal to Communion with God in his Pure Worship, in their Hazardous Undertakings into these Parts, So God did more for them, in shewing them the Scriptural Way of Church Government, as a Divine Favour, and Boon vouchsafed unto them, then he did to any other, which Light hath not been hid in a Bushel, but resplended not only into our Nation, but into all the Reformed Churches.* Concerning these men, it may without arrogancy

gancy be affirmed, tho' they were of lower stature then our first Reformers, who are of immortal Name, yet having the advantage of standing upon their Gigantine Shoulders, they had opportunity of seeing further, then those Giants did; some of them made discovery of the Papal Antichrist, and of his Tyranny over Kings, Princes and Prelates; others threw down the Episcopal Usurpation over their Fellow Presbyters, and reduced them to their Primitive Parity, and the Church Discipline then Established, especially the Later at *Geneva*; considering the vast Number in their Church Bodies, consisting from Eight to Twelve Thousand Members in one Congregation, so as they had from two to five Pastors in one Church, & in divers, six Ruling Elders; the publick Management of Discipline, upon Offenders in so vast an Auditory & Assembly would have tended to the Scandal of the Reformation, & have hindred the progress of Protestantism; they prudently concluded, to commit it into the private hands of the Classes, *viz.* Pastors and Ruling Elders of each Church, if need required further consideration, to be Tryed by the Colloquoy of the Neighbour Churches, *viz.* their Pastors and Elders there to be Represented, & for a result of it to be determined by the Synod of the Province, which if not there accomlisht, to be finally concluded by the National Synod of all the Churches; could there have been a more prudential way of Church Government pitched upon, then that which they practised; and doubtless God accepted the sincere desires of his Servants hearts, to the Conversion and Edification of many thousands in their most Holy Faith; but our Reformers circumstances were vastly different, our number fewer, & those eminently qualified for further Reformation; they being a select choice Company (& without offence it may be said) of the Cream and Flower of our Nation, not only for Morality, but true Piety; having been, both Ministers & People, under Sufferings for the Truth & Worship of God, both Confessors and Professors, and in Fervour of Spirit brought into this solitary place, where they had opportunity of the Visions of God, freed from Temptations, which populous places might have exposed them unto, and from the Baits of Honours & Profits which other places might have presented.

They

They after near two years seeking of God, and serious searching out his Will, with Unanimity of heart, and mind agreed, in that which then was, and now is called the Plat-form of Church Discipline; as for their Confession of Faith, they wholly agreed with that put forth by the Assembly of Divines at *Westminster*.

After full Answer was given to every Objection, which every individual person could make, both in Churches and Towns; both of them having had the consideration of it put unto them, the Plat-Form above-mentioned was accepted of, and declared by the General Court, and all the Churches, as being for the substance of it, what they had hitherto practised in all the Churches, as before is observed, and being that which was agreeing to the Word of God, and the principles of the Congregational Way, first practised in our Churches, & for a good time since; this Plat-form hath been Printed here, and in *England*, and published Abroad to the World, there being no difference between us, and the other Reformed Churches, whether the Church of *England*, the *French* or *Dutch* Churches, but only in point of Church Government, as to points of Faith and Doctrine, we all agree in one; this we thought needful to enlarge upon, humbly fearing the Lords present Controversy with us, doth in great measure Center here, *viz.* our deviating and receeding from that which gave us the Name of *New-England*; *viz.* the Plat-Form, and agreed practice of our Churches, according to the Word of God.

The Ravening Wolves of Heresy, and the wild Boars of Tyranny, being chained up from Devouring the Lords poor Flock, and from Rooting up his Heritage.

The unreconcilable Adversary, lets loose his Foxes with Fire brands at their Tails, to burn up this peoples standing Corn, which not taking, he sent forth his Foxes, the *little Foxes* ¶ *to spoil this Vine, in the time of its tender Grapes, but the Keeper of this Vineyard neither slumbering nor sleeping*, took and destroy'd them; he Watch'd, Warded, and every moment Watered it, and none did hurt it, much less threw down the Stone-Wall thereof; tho' many an hard push and shuff was made at it; our *Jerusalem* was then a *Burthensome Stone*, & their Governours like a Torch of Fire in a Sheaf, many an *Ebenezer*, Stones of help did

¶ *Gorton & Complyces, &c.*

our

our Fathers then set up, for which the Lords Sacro sanct Name was Celebrated.

This preceeding Relation is but as a few Clusters of *Ephraims* Grapes, compared with the redundancy of *Abiezer*, our Fathers Helpers Vintage; so many unimaginable and unutterable acts of Favour, and preventing Mercies, were in the Revolution of twenty five, or about thirty years space vouchsafed to our Fathers, as would fill a large Volume, yet not without mixture of Fatherly Corrections, to evince Paternal Respects unto them, as their own words writ into our Nation testify; that they were by the Dew from above, and Cælestial Influences kept alive, and cherished; as to the sequel, we shall leave it to such Sprightly and Accurate Wits to perform, who shall espouse it; knowing that tract of time will admit liberty of freer Discourse about Matters, then this Age will bear; the Relator being in hazard of having his Teeth dasht out, by Truth lifting up her heeles, if he come too near her, as hath been Experienced and Recorded by our Nations Great Historiographer.

This was the time of our Fathers Love of their Espousals, and Kindness of their Youth; they were then Holiness unto the Lord, and the First Fruits of his Increase. God Rode upon the Heavens for their help, they dwelt safely, tho' solitarily; our *Issachar* Rejoyced in their Tents, and our *Zebulon* in his Going forth, but have we brought Sacrifices unto the Holy Mountain; though we have sucked of the abundance and treasures of the Sea, to the enriching of divers. This Tribe hath abundantly multiplied to the admiration of all Beholders.

So as a noted *Belgian* one of the East India Company, who above twenty years since haveing heard of the fame of this place, purposely came over to take a view of it, and past through all the parts of it, and made a particular remark upon our sea trade, and the incredible number of small vessels he then saw, besides some Ships of considerable Burthen belonging to us.

Nor is to be forgotten the answer made to a Messenger of the Nations, an Attendant upon the *French* Court, sent hither by *Lewis le-Grand*, to demand the fulfilling of the Articles made at *Breda*, between the two Crowns, who here

to his astonishment saw, what he could not have believed ; to him it was told, That God had founded this Sion, and that the poor of his People did trust in him ; at his departure with wonderment he said, *Lo, what hath God done !* and if his Masters servants did know how the poor of this Country lived, he would not have one left.

It might be then said, who so happy as new *New-England*, by the Lord their shield and Sword of their Excellency : as our Report hath passed through *Holland* and *France* ; so that *Spain* is no stranger to it, appeareth by the Discourse, which the Governour of *Cuba* had with a Prisoner of Note of ours falling into his hands, concerning our being a People eminent for great Morality and Reformation, but *mind you* (said he) *how your Children will prove, and what will become of them* ; a Speech becoming a Gentleman well Versed in Sacred and Civil History.

Thus far of the Light and white side of the Pillar, which attended us in this our Wilderness Pilgrimage ; the black and dark side remains : and we hope thus far we have cleared our Fathers, from being the procurers and peccant causes of these dismal days now befallen us ; they according to Divine Institution walked with God, they did Justice and Judgment, and then it was well with them.

The Lord took delight in our Fathers, and they in him ; we have left the Lord, he hath forsaken us ; they Walkt with him, we contrary unto him ; he Subdued their *Pequod* and *Narraganset* Enemies before them, gave their Country into our hands ; but now the Scene of Affairs is turned, we are made a Spoil to our Haters, to our Popish and Pagan Neighbours, a Derision, we are sold and scattered among the Heathen ; can we say, *All this is befallen us, yet have we not forgotten thee, nor have we done falsely in thy Covenant* ; this we fear is our mortal wound, *viz.* the forgetting of our Fathers and of our God, we have dealt falsely in our own and their Covenant, who stipulated for us ; this is the quarrel which the Holy God is now avenging : Hath *Chittim* or *Canada* chang'd their Gods ? *Do we thus Requite the Lord ? Oh Foolish People and Unwise !*

O poor *New-England*, especially *Boston*, in the Day of it, poor to a proverb, of being the lost 'Town in our first Founding ;

Founding; those of other Towns enquired, how the Mean Ones lived here, the Rich had their Farms Abroad to Subsist by, but as for the poor, how could they subsist? The Answer was, their Ministry was so sweet unto them, and the Bread of Life so savoury to their Souls, that they forgot their Bodily Food, so welcome was Christian Society to them, that he who had but an Acre of Land for his House Lot, parted with one half of it to a desirable Neighbour; he that had but half an Acre did the like: Thus were we increast, so as instead of a desolate place, where our Fathers found no Town to dwell in, they Cried unto the Lord hungry and thirsty, who led them forth by a right way, that we are become a small City of Habitation. God gave some of them then a particular Faith upon Psalm 107. 4. to 8. When as they were brought to small store of provision, upon the first Market Day by the General Court appointed to be kept, they put to Sail half of it, to handsel it with. Thus was this contemptible place raised up, so that in less than sixty years, its reputed the Mart of the *North-America*.

That little Church which after seven years growth, its Number (in their Mud-wall Meeting House with wooden Chalices) was so small, as a Child might have told the whole Assembly; it hath been so Amplified and Dignified, by the Adorable presence of him, *whose Countenance as the Sun shining in his full strength*, with Radiant Beams through the Chrystal Glass of the Triumvirate Ministry of the first three Successive *Johns, Wilson, Cotton & Norton*, each so full of the Spirit of Love, Light, and Learning, as scarcely parallell'd in many Generations; this Church is now grown up to be a Trinity Colledge of Churches, besides three other Congregations, every Lords-Day distinctly calling upon the Name of the Lord, being each of them of different perswasions: Oh that the Redeemed of the Lord, whom he hath Sav'd from the Hand of the Enemy, and gathered from the Lands, might give thanks to the Lord, for *his Goodness and Mercy Endureth for ever*.

Our Ancestors were men of God, made partakers of the Divine Nature, Christ was Form'd, and visibly Legible in them, they Served God in Houses of the first Edition, without large Chambers, or Windows, Cieled with Cedar, or painted

painted with Vermilion ; a company of plain, pious, humble and open hearted Christians, call'd Puritans ; when News was brought hither, that the Church at *Bermudas* was Banish'd thence, into a desolate Island, and full of Straits, forthwith they sent a Vessel of good Burthen to them, fully Laden with provisions of all sorts, each striving who should be forwardest in so good a work ; which supply came unto them, when as all the Meal in their Barrels, and Oil in their Cruise was spent ; and it was brought to them upon a Lords-day, when as their Faithful Pastor had finished his Exhortation, from Psalm 23. *To Trust upon Jehova their Shepherd, who would not suffer his Flock to want* ; thus the Lord set his Seal to their Faith and Prayers.

The Gravity of their Habit, and Calendar Reformation, by Satans Pollicy, hath since been imitated by the Quakers, that our Fathers might be Lysted among those Phanaticks, and Enthusiasts ; but they own'd no Spirit within them, but to be tryed by the Word without them, and no Word without them, but accorded with the Spirit within them ; no word of promise to them without a work of Grace upon them, neither without the Holy Spirits dwelling in them, and testifying to them. They minded the Ornament of the meek and quiet Spirit, they were not acquainted with the toyes and fancies of this age, they were Glorious within, their clothing was of wrought gold, they were brought in unto the King, in rayment of needle work, wrought with tender pricks of conscience ; the least vain fashion, wanton, or wicked thought toucht them to the quick, sensibly feeling others adversity, as being in the same body, instance in our *Pequod* and *Narragansett* Wars, we were not the next concerned, it was *Conecticut* and *Plimouth* ; at first no union of the *Collonies*, why should we concern our selves with them, why did they ramble so far a field, they might have contented themselves, without such
 Mr. *Oldham* large accommodation. The first English Blood-shed, was of an *Indian* trader, and one who had been highly fined for abusing this authority, but it was English Blood, and they made Inquisition after it.

So they did, when a couple of English traders were at
Richmond

Richmond Island, slain by the Indians 1631. and the next year an English Pirate seized a vessel, who robbed & made spoil at *Pemiquod* Fort, and along the Coast; the worthy Governour and Council then used means for their suppression, and accordingly it succeeded: Nation and Neighbourhood was Obligation to their engaging in the quarrel, they had simpathy in each joys and sorrows, our senseless stupidity, and our Pride devours our Charity, Oh the Excess of it both *of* Body and mind, of Hearts, and Parts, *of* Vestures, and Gestures, in all Professors, it is the *Noli me tangere* of the Age; its fear'd, that most *of* our Prophets mouths are judicially shut against it, and that God now saith of us, as formerly of *Ephraim*, *He is joined to his Idols let him alone.*

Dread we, least our Palsey Distempers should Relax the Nerves of our Body Pollitick, or our Convulsive Cramps should break them, and mostly that the Pectant Humours in our Bodies may not abound to the raising up Noxious and Mortal Fumes and Vapours, in our Head.

If the *Athenian Mercury* may be credited, the excesses of our Nation in their Head-Tire, hath been testified against, by Unnatural Excessences *of* Bruit Creatures, but, (as its said) ours by an Humane Monstrossity, as if the Holy GOD were more Jealous against us, then against others.

The Lord seeth the Land-Defiling and Desolating sins amongst us: what Witchcrafts, and what other abominations are in the midst *of* us, we have just cause both to lay ourselves down in the Dust, and with indignation to bear all witness justly due against them, and all our Pagan walking in Lasciviousness, *Lusts of the Flesh, Lusts of the eyes, and Pride of Life*, our excess of Wine, Revellings, & abominable wickedness, by which Gods Name is Blaphemed among us; for which as the Lord vomited out these Natives, to make room for us, so he now hath vomited us out, to make room for them; in this War he hath Ruined and Destroyed a whole Shire, and in a manner Depopulated a whole Province; in which Desolation, two Churches gathred according to Gospel Order are extinguished: One of them about fifty years standing, which was one of the first attacks upon us, having there been made the greatest Slaughter, Captivity, and Plunder; the
Town

Town remaineth, but the Churches Candlestick was removed: the other Church not of much lesser standing, where its said, not above Four Males left of their Society, the rest Dead, Slaughtered, or Captivated; but the Burthen of that Lamentation is, that their Faithful Pastor, Eminent for Humility, Piety, and care of his Flock; he not being willing to leave them, was Barbarously Murthered in the midst of them, his Tender and Godly Wife Captivated, there Dyed. Oh Lord will not all this awaken us to Church Reformation, so as to set thine Altar upon its Basis, a Sentence *to be* engraven upon every Church door, when we are not only under Fear *of* the inhabitants *of* this Land, but under the Deep Smarting and Killing Displeasure *of* a Righteous, Holy and Angry God, by these wicked Cannibals, who are Gods Sword, and have been so for many years together, and when the end will be none of our Prophets have told us: we mention not the other circumstances relating to that Province & Shire; it's said there have been Killed & captivated, a 1000, besides about 140 Slain the other day: but leave it to such whose Lot it will be to draw it up, our *Pequod* and *Narraganset* Wars lasted about three years, whose Narrative is faithfully Published by two persons of Worth, to the Honour of God, King, and Country: It's thought no *English* Pen will hardly Undertake this.

That the Great God is Departing from us, his Awful Removes demonstrate, should he quite leave us, we need none to Judge between us, but our selves to Justifie him, and Condemn us; we are the Luxuriant Branches of the Noble Vine here planted, but Degenerated into that of *Sodom* and *Gomorrhah*, whom after all Culturing to bring us unto our Pristine Fruitfulness, by Impoverishing us, by pruning off our Superfluous Branches, by Losses at Sea, by Defeating our great *Canada* Design by Gods own Immediate Hand, Starving and Freezing to Death the Flower of our Hopeful Youth; the Lord from Heaven, and the Stars in their Courses, Fighting against us; yea, Cruel Cannibals, Scalping and Fleaing of our Bodies, burning us as Sacrifices to *Habamoch*; but all this tends only to the killing of our Bodies; but when as the Lyon of the Tribe of *Judah* is Rowz'd up, and Roareth upon us, who can but fear? it exceeds brutish stupidity, if we do not Trem-
ble,

ble, more especially, when as the Devourer out of the Bottomless Pit is let Loose upon us, the Compendium of all Calamity, and the quintessence of Wrath, Anger, and Indignation is come upon us to the utmost, as if now we were to be made an Execration to God, his Holy Angels and good men, at the dreadful Claps of this tremendous Thunder, whose Flesh is not shattered in pieces? How should the ghastly sight of the Tophet and Invisible World within us, and of the innate Inmate that dwells within us, and hurries us into perdition, makes self and sin more abominably vile, and loathsome then Hell or Devil? *Who can hide from the Wrath of the Lamb?* Whose Grace upon the Knee, in the Ministry of his Holy Word, so oft hath besought us and ours to be Reconciled unto him, but we would not, we have with our contempt provoked him, to deliver us up into the hand of him, who *hath the Power of Death.*

Let's consider the Instruments Implied in this suparlative Plague, the Devil is come down against us, the Inhabitants of this Earth, having great Wrath, he is the Do-evil, he is the Recorded Liar, Tempter, Accuser, and Murderer of Souls and Bodies, and what not? They are Spirits no more discerned by us, and as unseen as our Souls, yet so near, piercing and contiguous as the Air, Heat, or Cold, and it's only want of Divine Permission, if not Commission, that every one of us hath not had the experience of all this; they are Fallen Angels, Apostate from their Heavenly First State; should not this bring to Remembrance, both our Personal Fall in our First Fathers, and our Relative Apostacy from our Church-State? First Love, and First Works! Our Fathers were Clothed with the Sun, the Apostolical Discipline and Doctrine were their Crown, the Moon was under their Feet, but we are turned topsy turvy, Heads and Heels have changed places, a little from Heaven, was greater encouragement then a great deal from Earth, as then was the reply of a young Preacher, to one who questioned him, how he could be contented with such poor Fare and mean Maintenance, in a small Village; we fear that Christ Jesus Indigitates at our Churches Apostacy, and at our Falling from our First Love.

And doubtless God calls us, now being Alarmed by these
Spirits,

Spirits, to try our particular Estates, what Spirit we are of? Whether of new and Heaven-born State; and also our Worship, whether it be Spiritual, such as he who is a Spirit, the Father of Spirits seeketh; he found our Fathers such of his own Making, or they would not have run the risk of Transplanting themselves, or brought us their Children hither: Again, are we true Worshippers? Principled in the Truth of what we believe, and practice from the Word of Truth, can we give a better account of our Church Covenant and Fellowship, then a Bygot Papist can of Mass, or his Auricular Confession, their Fathers did so, and so did ours; it was the Custome of the place they lived in, and so is ours; let us mind whether by these Hellish Emissaries, God doth not loudly call upon us to consider of these things.

Let's ponder upon the Subjects or Persons upon whom this Great Wrath is fallen, they are chiefly the Members of our Churches, or their Hearers and Dependants, none of the Episcopal, Antipedobaptists, or Quakers perswasion, have been complained of, to be Accusers, or Accused, Afflictors, or Afflicted, the Devil setting up his Chappel so near to Christ's Church, declareth his Malice, and especially against us, it hath been well noted by a Minister of Note, that the Devil now contents not himself to imitate Jewish or Popish Modes, but he will take up the Reformed and Congregational Way; a single Parson will not serve his turn, but he will have Pastor and Teacher, if he can't find a Deacon, he will not want two Widows or Deaconesses, his old Diabolism will not do now, to Baptise and give Names to the Witch and her Imps, but he brings up a new Demonianism, every Witch shall have her (so call'd) Spectre, to attend upon her, and to be her Envoye, to Torment such as they never knew or saw; where as it hath bin an old saying: *Ignoti nulla Cupido: No Love to a person unknown, and consequently as little hatred.* Sauls Evil Spirit acting his Eyes to Malignity against David, sympathised with his hand to murder him, but now between sight and touch, a vast antipathy.

But that which we in our short Reading never read or heard of the like before, which may make our flesh to tremble, the joynts of our Knees to be loosed, and our very
Arteries

Arteries and Heart-strings to break in sunder, at the very sound of it; that these Cursed Fiends (who in the day of our Lords Humiliation, when as he divested his Glory, and took upon him the *Form of a Servant*, a Poor Carpenter (to make new, and mend old Houses) did then beseech him to give them leave to enter into a parcel of Swine, and that he would not Torment them *before their time*; That this Glorious and Glorified Lord, *Who by Death slew him who had the Power of Death, that is the Devil*, and upon and in his Resurrection, *made Triumph over all Devils, having Led them Captive, spoiling Principalities and Powers, made shew of them openly, after God hath highly Exalted him, even to sit at his Right hand, and given him a Name above every Name, That in the Name of Jesus, every Knee in Heaven, Earth, and Hell should bow*; that in open defiance of all this, now they should insult over Storm, and basely affront the Lord of Heaven, Earth, and Hell; the Scriptures tell us, *That the Devils Believe and Tremble*; and this we do and must believe: but that a Damned Crew of Devils or Witches at the Devils Table, with Red Bread and Wine, in derision of our Lords Body and Blood, should sport and feast themselves (as some of the Confessing Witches have said, and unsaid) with that which is their Torment and Torture, we must cry out and say, *Credat Judeus Apella, Let an Uncircumcised Jew believe it*, being no Article of any Unfascinated Christians Creed: *Tell not this in Gath, publish it not in Askelon, lest Philistiahs Daughters Triumph and Rejoyce.*

It's Historied of our Pagan Progenitors, that *Gregory* the Great, the last of the good, and first of bad Popes, seeing strange Lads of a comely Countenance produced publickly to be Sold, he inquired of what Nation they were of, being told they were *Angli, English*, looking upon their fair faces, he said they were *Angeli*, Angels, and pitying them that they were Vassals of Satan, he took Order for the Conversion of our Nation to the Christian Faith; but as for us *Nov Angli, New English*, by our smutty deformity, and Hells blackness, we have rendred our selves *Diaboli Veterani*, Old Devils: *New England* will be called, new Witch-land, *Emanuel's* Land will be Titled the Land of *Abaddon*; *Salem Village* and *Andover*, will be called the

Sweedish Mohra and *Bokul*; the Country whose Native and Natural Smell, was, as of a Field, which the Lord hath Blessed, a Promenado abroad after Rain, would have Revived a mans Spirits, as some have experienced it; yea the whole Continent which long after our first coming hither, was so full not only of Internals, but of External Flavour, and sweet Odour; so as when Ships were divers Leagues distant, and had not made Land, so fragrant and odoriferous was the Land to the Marriners, that they knew they were not far from the Shoar; such was the plenty of sweet Fearn, Lawrel, and other fragrant Simples, this Land then abounded with; especially near the Sea side; such was the scent of our Aromatick, and Balsome bearing pines, spruces, and Larch Trees with our Tall Cedars, exceeding all in *Europe*: But our sweet scent is gone, we smell rank of Helle-bore, Henbane, and poysonful Hemlock, as if we were laid out to be the *American Anticyra*.

We were then honoured with *You only have I known of all the Families of the Earth*, but what follows? *therefore will I punish you*. Priviledge doth not exempt from punishment, and now we are under the smart of it; we have been laid in the green bed of Ordinances, yea in Christ's Bosome, under a Conjugal Covenant, and we must expect to be punished for the breach of it; the Lord who was jealous for our Fathers, he is jealous against us; the wilful neglect of Divine Institutions, brings under the same breach of the Second Commandment, as the Superstitious setting up of Humane Inventions, we may set up Cross or Surplice as lawfully as neglect any Gospel Ordinance: the grand Promise of Christ *being alway with his Churches, unto the End of Ages*, is conditional, and cannot be separated from that which preceedeth, nor be claimed without that which is annexed to it, *viz.* our Obedience to that Gospel Command, which Christ reserved to take leave of his Apostles, and all Believers; which last words are or ought to be affecting and soaking to parting Relations: *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have Commanded you to do, and LO I AM WITH YOU*; Here is adjoyned Christs Note of *Lo*, or *Behold*, calling for our greatest attention and consideration, as well as being the remark of the highest truth and affirmation; and both confirmed by the *Amen* and last words

words of him *Who is the Faithful and true Witness, whose Name is Amen.*

Can it be rationally supposed! that had we not receded from having Pastors, Teachers, and Ruling Elders, and Churches doing their duty as formerly, with Family-Government kept up, that the Roaring Lion could have gained so much ground upon us (he being resisted would have fled) and not multiplied so many Impieties in our Towns; or such a Number of real or reputed Witches amongst us, as it's said in or about two Towns, above two hundred Accused, one hundred Imprisoned, thirty Condemned, and twenty Executed; yea, some Accused among our Rulers in Commonwealth and Churches, as if they were become places for *Zim, Jm, and Ohim*, with the Satyrs to Dance in, Oh whither shall we go to cover our shame? Shall not the stings of those *Stygian Scorpions* awaken us out of our Læthal Lethergy? Are both Wise and Foolish Virgins asleep? what need is there of Prayer? that our Eyes may be opened, and our hearts awakened, and to crie out, *Awake, awake Deborah, awake, awake*, is it not high time, as for every particular person, so for our Churches to search, *and try our ways, and return to our First Husband, and the good Old Way we have walked in.*

The place where Satan made his first assault, and great Battery is to be minded: there he made his grand Attack where he first was Dethroned, and that is *Salem*; his present Rage is against it: its Original Name was called, *Naumkek*, the Bosome of Consolation being its signification, as the Learned have observed. It's now threatned to be made a place and bosome of Desolation, and Turning Christ out of his Throne; that where Christs Banner had been displayed, there the Devil with sound of Trumpet, sets up his Ensigns, where Spiritual Songs, and Sacred Anthoms of, *Glory to God in the Highest, and Peace on Earth, and good will towards men*; with *Ainsworth*, Elevated Tunes were wont to be warbled forth; that there the horrid Screeking and Screaming of Obsessed, Possessed, and Bewitched Persons should be sounded with such hideous yellings, to the amazement of the Hearers, as if Hell and his Furies had been let loose.

That the Noise of Maules and Hammers, beating down
the

the Carved Works in the Synagogues of the Land, should be heard where men had been Famous, whose Axes had been lifted up for hewing and squaring Souls for Christs Spiritual Building.

That where the Devil like Lightning had fallen down from Heaven, before the Thundering Ministry of Christs Boanerges, there the Black Man or Devil should be pointed at, as visibly sitting or standing on the Beams or Seats.

Though *Balac* and *Balam* Changed Stations, and Sacrifices, they could not Curse, but must bless this People; *how goodly were the Tents and Tabernacles of our Israel*, when our Tribes according to Scriptural Order, were pitch'd about our Tabernacle, and the Ark of God in the midst of us, when our Churches and Consociations were according to Divine Directory, and Primitive Practice; *We looked forth then as the Morning, fair as the Sun, clear as the Moon, and terrible as an Army with Banners*, no Inchantment or Divination against us, until prevailing Iniquity and Transgression against Christs Institutions were found among us; our Strength then was as the strength of the Unicorn, the shout of our King was among us, sitting upon his Throne of Majesty, with the *Rainbow* about his head, surrounded with the four living Creatures, and *Twenty Four Elders, prostrating, and throwing their Crowns before his Throne*; a Lively Emblem and Character of the first Apostolical Churches Organized and Compleated according to Christs Appointment, with the Couragious Lion-like Ruling Elder, the Laborious Ox-like Pastor, the humanely Compassionate Deacon, and the Eagle Eyed Teacher. Our Sins exceeding Immoralities, are dipp'd in the Crimson Tincture of Rebellion; no marvel if our punishment be so great, *yet abundantly less then our Iniquities do deserve*.

The dread of Divine Anger and Wrath, with the Guilt of Conscience, which the Scripture of Truth declares and dictates unto us, as unknown in its power, and that according to Gods Fear, such is his wrath; this the wisdom of our Antients (when *Paynimes*) Represented by *Alecto*, and her two Sister-Furies sent out of *Tartaras*, with their Platted *Chevelures*, and Contorted *Locks* of Hissing Serpents and Stinging Adders, Hanging below their Necks, whose Tails, Tongues, and Teeth were full of *Deadly Poyson*,
enough

enough to Fright a Sensible Man out of his Wits, and our Gallants out of their Head-Gear: It's said to be certainly true, that no *Rattle-Snake* ever was seen beyond *Merrimak* River, the *Boundary* of our First Patent; nor that there hath been a Convicted Witch on the other side of *Piscataquay* River; but if some Creatures may be Credited, how do we on this Side abound; how do the *Ignatian Loyalists* with their *Perverted Proselytes*, Triumph over our Poor Captives, saying, *We are the true Christians, you the false, we no Lye, Swear, but Pray and Praise God*; as indeed, at the Late Surprise of *York*, before they fell to sharing of their Plunder, they met and Sung, *Te Deum Laudamus*, their Praises to God; and at their *Vespers*, or *Nocturnal* Risings to Smoak it, they Sing even *Songs and Muttens*, in the Morning in their own *Language*, with Harmonious Melody, as our Captives Testify; how doth this Reflect upon the Thousands of *Non-Praying*, and *Non-Praising Familys* of the *English*; they tell us, *Their Priests are good Men, our Ministers are Devils, and hung for Witches*; What will some of our own Nation reproach us with? what is become of the *New-Heaven*, and the *New-Earth*, of your Non parralleld Reformation you boasted of? whatever Piety your Fathers pretended in the *Pia Mater* of their Brains, to be sure it is Ardled into impious matter of Devilism, in their Childrens crack'd Crowns; and therefore you are sent into a Region, where there is *Hellebore* enough, for all the Mazed *Fanaticks* in *Europe*; thus is the Name of GOD, His Tabernacle, and those which dwell in Heaven, Blasphemed for our sakes; we not giving him the Glory and Honour due unto his Name; others do say, and they do very ill in their so speaking, what is become of your resolved Revolution, which God is now Plagueing you for? and the Complication of Lies, made to encourage and further it; *which of your Designs have prospered since?* Had you waited Gods time, you should have had it with a Blessing, but by your Lyes obtaining it, you have deeply paid for it.

Finally, that which may call for our *Higgaion Selah*, and deep *Humiliation*, is the consideration of the time, when as *Hells Hurricano* seas'd us, when after weary waiting, in our languishing, and bleeding condition *above a Time*,

Time, Times, and half a Time; at length we were brought to Gods Foot, our wounds not being healed, tho our Petitions were not granted, yet our prayers were heard, as appeareth by their Majesties grant of a *Province Charter*, there declared, and here with great acclamation Proclaimed; this we look'd at as a happy Omen of Halcyon dayes now come to this distressed, & wounded people, in this Junctor of time, or about the laying the Foundation of this structure, that the great *Palmony*, the wonderful numberer of times, who weighs the least minute of humane accidents, in the exact ballance of an eternal decree, even to the pacing of *Ahabs* Horses in his Chariot, that they must not go faster or slower, then to reach the very spot, where the Dogs had lick'd up *Naboths* Blood, there to lick up *Ahabs*; that then this *Euroclydon* should be raised, to the Total Ruine of the whole Fabrick; that when according to Gods gracious Promise unto *Israel* of old, the Royal Concession unto us was, *That our Nobles should be of our selves, and that our Governour should proceed from the midst of us, and that God would make him to draw nigh unto him, and that he did approach unto him*: That then Hells rage did seize us, to the breaking us in pieces, if Satans Stragem had taken effect, according to the wasting Progress made, that when as we hoped, God should have been ours, and our Childrens God as aforetime, and our Congregations established for ever; that then we should render ourselves, or be rendred by others, as the Sons of the Sorceress, and Children of the Adulteress: what high songs of praise do we owe unto *Sions* God, for the discovering of *Apollions* Wiles, Depths and Deceits; and for Spiriting one of the Tribe of *Zebulon*, rais'd up from among us, by finding out the Treasures hid in the Sands, which hath highly tended to the raising of him to Honour, and the enrichment of himself, and Nation; who being Divinely destined, & humanely Commissionated to be the Pilot and Steers-man of this poor Bemisted, and Befogg'd Vessel, in the *Mare Mortuum*, and *Mortiferous* Sea of Witchcraft, and Fascination; by Heavens Conduct according to the integrity of his heart, not trusting the Helm in any other Hand, he being by God and their Majesties bestrusted therewith, he so happily shaped, and steadily steered her Course, as she
 escaped

escaped Shipwrack, either upon the *Stygian Scilla*, or the *Achorontal Charibdis*, and now is safely Moored in the *Pacifique* Sea, and under the Cape of *Bone Esperance*; he being also by the same Hand appointed, to be this Peoples Chieftain; by the Prudence of his hands, and strengthened by the Arms of the mighty God of *Jacob*, managed the sharp Two Edged Sword, to him committed, incomparably excelling that of the Great *Alexander*, to the Cutting in sunder of the *Circean* knot of Inchantment, abundantly more difficult to be dissolved, then the Famous *Gordian* one of Old: he being also led by divine inspiration, of Our Blessed Gods-Spell and the most sure Word of Prophecy, infinitely surpassing the Famous Thred and Clue of *Ariadne*, hath extricated us out of the Winding and Crooked Labyrinth of Hells *Meander*.

Let all be improved to the high Honour of him, who had he not been on our Side, *Now may New England say, Had he not been on our side, when not only men, but Devils rose up against us, we had been swallowed up quick, the proud Waves had gone over our souls; Blessed be the Name of the Lord, who gave us not up to be a prey unto their Teeth, let our help be in the Name of the Lord, who hath made Heaven, Earth, and Hell.*

Oh that now this token for good, may be improved to the quickening of us, to breaking off the Covenant made with Death, that it may be disannulled, and our Agreement with Hell, that it may not stand; and to make sure our Interest in the firm, sure, precious and tried Foundation, and Corner Stone, which with a *Behold of Attention and Admiration*, God hath *Laid in Sion*: Let this preventing Mercy Encourage poor Starv'd Prodigals, to return to their Fathers House, acknowledging our selves unworthy to be his Sons; no, not his Mænial Servants. Own we our selves to be Lukewarm *Laodiceans*, wambling upon the Stomach of our Blessed Lord, and no place fitter to ease himself of us, then by spuing us into Hell, as was said of *Caparnaum*; we are as ignorant, as arrogant, we are Rich, want for nothing, but know not our Poverty, Blindness, or Nakedness; we trust and boast our selves in lying words, of the *Temple of the Lord*, and that we are Christ's Non-such Garden, for him to Walk and Recreate himself in:

But

But alas! we are neither hot nor cold, a parcel of Mungrel Interpendants; we are not of the Episcopal Form, we allow no Superiority in our Churches, nor Officers; where there is but one Officer, there cannot be Preference nor Disparity; and how many of our Churches have more? We are not Presbyterians, for their declared Discipline, and their practice is accordingly; they have one Pastor, and two Ruling Elders, in their least Congregations; and as their Flock increaseth, so they multiply their Officers; but we on the contrary; when a Churches Foundation hath been laid, they had not the Number of Forty Members in their Body; they solemnly then engaged, with hands lifted up to Heaven, not to be without two Teaching, and two Ruling Elders, and for a while they publickly practised, chusing two Ruling Elders, Ordained a Pastor and Ruling Elder, and sent the other to bring over a Teacher, which was done; but when they are now multiplied vastly above the Number, more then at first, they content themselves with one Teaching, and never a Ruling Officer; when as there are, as it's said, above two thousand Souls under Church Watch, & none Officially to Rule and Watch over them; is not this *Taking Gods Name in vain*; and as for the Congregational Way, we Nominally profess it; but if we Read the Plat-form of our Church Discipline, or the way of the Congregational Churches of *New-England*, we may see how much we are varied from it, and gone back from the way, our Fathers and our selves have been instructed in, and have received upon the Divine Authority of the Holy Word, and formerly walked accordingly.

Let's not halt between two Opinions, if our Fathers Ways were Scriptural, let us practically Justify them, if they be not, let us be Humbled and Reform; we pray that the Lord would lead and keep us in his Truth, and restore us to Walk in Christ, as we have received him; though our Rust is so inveterately Cankered, as no scowring will fetch it out; let's Beg that the Refiners Fire, which the Lord is purging the Sons of *Levi* with, may effectually melt us down, that we may be fitted as Vessels of Honour, *Sanctified and Prepared unto every good Work, and made fit for our Masters Use*: Let this stimulate us to hearken
unto

unto what the *Spirit saith unto the Churches*, not advancing mens Polliticks, before Gods Institutes, nor humane Prudentials, before Christ's Credentials; take we heed of disgust against Scripture Purity, and plainness; and see that the true Faith and Discipline received from our Godly and Holy Fathers, may be handed down to us, and to our Children, bringing forth practical Holiness, whereby as they Justified their Profession, so we may in our Lives and Conversations make evident, the Holiness and Faithfulness of our and their Heavenly Father; that Religion and the true Ways of God in his Worship and Discipline, may not evaporate into Form, *without the Power of Godliness*, nor be Buried in our Predecessors Graves, but that it may in the midst of years Revive, to that which was *New Englands* Glory: In our first times no complaint of Churches being incompelat of Officers, nor for want of Maintenance for them, nor for want of Materials to choose Officers fit to Rule; some have observed this Failure hath been upon private Brethrens Obstructions, a discouragement of discourse among themselves, unless it were such, as they had from the Press or Pulpit; Doth it not reflect upon the Churches King and Law-giver? who both received and gave gifts to men, that the Lord God might dwell among them, yea, among the Rebellious: Shall our Churches lie under the Curse of Barren Wombs and Dry Breasts? Is *Bethel* Barren, and *Athens* Fruitful? Shall *Cambridge* the School of our Young Prophets be pregnant, and an *Alma Mater*, a *Bountiful Mother with her Breasts, exuberating with Radiant Beams, and Sacred Streams, to the making glad the City of our God*; in sending forth such as are Accomplished with exquisite and requisite Talents, to fit them to the Ministerial Work of Christ's Holy Temple. And shall our Churches, which should be *Sion Colledges*? and the Mothers of old and young Disciples now be sterile? Neither capable to bring forth, Nurse, or Educate any, which may be fit for Rule in them; shall they be capable of no other Name, but of the Layty or this People, which was imposed upon them, by such as Arrogated to themselves the Title of the Clergy, or of being Gods Lot.

Our King is blameless, but how much our Churches are
 4TH S.—VOL. IV. 41 blame-worthy,

blame-worthy, the Lord give us to consider ; for Brethren of low degree, to say they know not the way of the Lord, they are of mean Estates, and low Capacities, their Counsel will not meet with acceptance, as some others might do ; go to the Brethren of high degree, they know the way of the Judgments of the Lord, but they cast off the Yoke of the Lord ; their occasions will not bear or admit of so mean an Employ as to be a Ruling Elder.

It's Recorded to the high Honour of the *French Reformed Churches*, that not many years since, at a National Synod held at *Charenton*, very nigh unto *Paris*, the Metropolis of that Nation ; in the sight of all the *French Nobility*, and Gallantry, there appeared twelve or sixteen Barons, Lords, and Esquires, who esteemed not themselves debased, to appear as Members of that Synodical Society, and indeed were all of them Ruling Elders of their Respective Congregations, and truly the Glory of Christ in his Churches : This is asserted in the Synodicon *Galliae Reformatae*.

May we not fear that we render our selves highly Criminal against the Prerogative of this King of Kings, and Lord of Lords ; who besides what is recorded in the Scripture of Truth, that when he took leave of his Apostles at his Ascension, What he then gave in Charge to them ; he afterward doubled the same by the great and last Apostle of the Gentile Churches ; instructing *Timothy* in Christ's Name, how he should behave himself in the Church, and House of God ; he doth upon the highest adjuration which can be mentioned, Enjoyn him, as he will answer it *before God, before Jesus Christ, and the Elect Angels, that he should observe those things* ; namely, the Canons he had before appointed about Church Order and Officers ; that he should mind those things, *without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality* ; there must be no partial dealing, no preferment of one Commandment of Christ before another, Deacons must not be kept in place, with rejection of the Elders that Ruled well, nor others debarr'd of their double Honour, especially those who laboured in the Word and Doctrine ; and the Holy All-wise God knowing that the Churches would Apostatize, and that Antichrist whose Mystery of Iniquity then wrought, would in
special

special manner run encounter to Scripture Purity, and pollute the Sanctuary Streams of Church Ordinances and Officers, especially Ruling Elders, because of their pragmatism with the Teaching Elders, about Church Rule, he jumbled and made one Officer of Teaching and Ruling Elders, prudentially to avoid Scism, and called them both Presbyters or Priests; mean while he courted and carressed the Deacons whom he distinguished; some he called Sub-Deacons, to attend the Vestry, to help on the Surplices and holy Garments of the Priests or Presbyters; others he advanced to hear Auricular Confessions, and say Mass; but prudently considering that the Care and Trust of the Church Stock and Treasury was committed unto them; especially when it was augmented with that called *Constantines* Gift, concerning which, History tells us of a voice heard in the Heavens: *Hodie venenum effunditur, &c. This day poyson is powred into the Churches*: That *Man of Sin* foreseeing how useful Deacons might be to his Clergy, he advanced the Gravest of them to be Arch Deacons, and to be of the number of *Cardinals*, so called, because they are the *Cardines* Hooks or Hindges that the Scarlet Whores Chair or Seat hangs on: This cursed Conclave are the only Elected and Electors of the Pope; their work on High Festivals is to Vest their *Pontifex Maximus* in his *Pontificalibus* of Purple and Scarlet, decked with Jewels and Gold, vastly exceeding all Imperial State; and the Splendor of *Jaddus* the High-priest appearing to *Alexander*, to confirm him in his Conquest of the World. Whilst at the High Altar he is Offering up the Blasphemous Sacrifice, these Arch-Deacons attend upon him, as other Deacons at the Lords Supper. Let the Candid Reader pass by this digression, designed to shew what a fine Thred this *Mystery of Iniquity* at first spun; but now the Son of Perdition Sits as God in the Temple of God, *whom Christ will destroy with the Brightness of his Coming. &c.* Christ renews and doubleth the same Charge in the same Epistle, as it were Adjuring and Conjuring *Timothy*, and in him all the Churches, *In the sight of God, as they look to answer it, at that Great Day, and before Jesus Christ, who made a good Confession before Pontius Pilate, that they keep his Commandment without spot, and unrebukable, until the Appearing of*

of Jesus Christ: How should all these Obtestations and Injunctions make all *New-England* Church-Members and Officers dreadfully to quake and tremble, under the consideration of what Guilt we lay under, by breach of this Command.

Moreover the King of Saints, and Lord of Heaven and Earth, having Magnified and Exalted this People above any in the lower world, with *Charter* Priviledge to im-body themselves into Spiritual Corporations founded upon Divine Institutions, and directed by Scriptural Regulations; by which Charter of Right, they are Impowred to Assemble and Incorporate themselves, to Chuse and Appoint their own Officers, acting the whole in his Sacred Majesties Name, and Solely by his Authority, that agreeing together, he hath pass'd under the great Seal of Heaven, and given his Royal Parole Oath, and Amen, to bind or loose in heaven, whatsoever they shall bind or loose on earth; the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are given to this Church, Confessing and Professing Christ to be the Son of the living God: the gates of hell shall not prevail against it: yea, he whose Name is I AM, is in the Midst of two or three, assembled in his Name & Authority; but if they by their factions, or fractions, cannot agree, or thro their sullen wilfulness, do *Nonuser, Dejuser, Refuser* any of these Sacred Statutes, which they by Scripture *Charter* are oblidg'd to act by, they forfeit their Franchise, & may expect a *Divine Quo-warranto*, to be sued out by their King against them, WHO REQUIRED THIS AT YOUR HANDS? THIS IS NOT THE FEAST, FAST OR DUTY THE LORD REQUIRES. By not observing all things he hath Commanded, they forfeit the challenge of his promised Presence with them, if they refuse any Officer, which he hath instated in the Churches, they expose themselves to the Forfeiture of the said Charter.

And he who knoweth not, what a Deluge of Superstitions was by this door of neglect, let into the first Churches, he is not so vers'd in divine and humane Church History, as the time of the fulfilling Prophecy we are cast into, calls for: our crying out, *The Temple of the Lord*, will not free us from being Dischurched, more then *Jerusalem* was; she was sent to *Shilo*. *N. England* needs not to Travel into
Asia

Asia to learn it; every poor *French Refugee*, who hath set his Foot in *N. England*, Preacheth it unto us, whose Churches have yielded more Faithful Martyrs, then all the other Reformed Churches in *Europe*; their care of Supplying the Poor Churches, out of the Large Treasury, and by the Liberality of the Richer, was Exemplary; and the Providing Maintenance to the Widows, and Orphans of their Deceased Pastors, was Presidential; it was the special Work of their National Synods, and doth condemn us; Christ that knows their Charity, Service, Faith, and Patience after their Re-reformation, will make this *Thyatiras last works to be more than her first*. Oh that we might apply our Hearts to these things, that they may sink into our Souls! Kings out of their Natural Clemency, may abate from the Severity of Law, but if contempt be added, it aggravates the Offence; Our case is such as only Sovereign Grace can Cure; God hath oft wrought for his Names Sake, Let us Plead it with him, *Lord we are call'd by thy Name, Leave us not, Let us not be abhorrd for thy Names Sake; Let not the Throne of Thy Glory, be further Disgraced, before Popish and Pagan Adversaries?*

It's said that none but Parliaments Laxness to maintain their just and legal Proprieties can undo the Body Politick of a Nation; so none can undo our Spiritual Corporations, but their Members; giving up their due just Church Power and Priviledge, into the hands of some *Diotrephe*s, as befel the Primitive Churches.

As we began with a caution from our great *Cotton*, so we shall draw to a conclusion with the Animadversion of the great Congregational Champion, Dr. *Owen*, who in the Vindication of these Churches from Scism, charg'd upon them by Dr: *Stillingsfleet*; the said Reverend Man, who there, and in his other Elaborate Works upon that subject, doth but Paraphrase and Comment upon the Book of Mr. *Cottons Keys*, as he himself hath published to the World; in answer to Mr. *Cawdry*, That upon search of the Scriptures, and weight of Argument thence deduced, finding the Work of the *Keyes* exactly answering the *Wards of the Lock of Christs Kingdom*; he was proselited from the Classical, unto the Congregational Way of Churches. Let it with all submissiveness be considered, whether its **Rumination**

nation may not be our concern, who Writing of the State of these Churches saith: *That when a People through an apprehension of their own ignorance, weakness, and unmeetness (well if it be not Laziness and Idleness) to discern and judge matters of Religion for themselves; and their own duty be kept and debar'd from it, or when through their own sloth, negligence and vitiousness, shall be really uncapable to manage their own interest in Church Affairs, as fit only to be governed, if not as Bruit Creatures, yet as mute persons; these things shall be implied by the ambition of the Clergy, ingrossing all things in the Church, to themselves, as they did in former Ages: That if the old Popedom do not Return, a new one will be Erected as bad as the other: God forbid this prognostick should be the Fate of our Churches; yet when we read the Apostle Pauls advice to Colosse, Say to Archippus, Take heed to thy Ministry, which thou hast Received of the Lord; when we consider the neglect of it, we know not what to say.*

The said Learned Man, in a Book Published since his Death, concerning the Rule and Order of Congregational Churches, which he asserts to be the only Apostolical Churches, both according to the Rules of Scripture, and according to the Example of Primitive Humane Antiquities, to whom next unto the Sacred Scriptures, we owe greatest Veneration and Credence, which he in the said Book citeth, in that discourse, treating of the Ruling Elders Office and Duty, he saith, *I admire that any man should have so much confidence in his own Abilities, so as to suppose himself Meet, and Able, for the Discharge of both sorts of Elders in the least Church of Christ; In the same Treatise, he further affirms, Its evident, that neither the Purity, Order, nor the Beauty, or Glory of the Churches of Christ, nor his Majesty, or Authority in the Government of them, can be long preserved without the multiplication of Elders in them, according to the proportion to the Number of their respective Members; for want whereof, the Churches of old, and late, have Degenerated into Anarchy, or Confusion, or else given themselves up, unto the dominion of some prelatical Teachers to rule at pleasure, which was the poison and bane of the other Primitive Churches; and they will do the same for the future, in the neglect of this Order.*

God

God avert these sad Omens, that they should befall our Churches; and yet when we read how the *Mystery of Iniquity* wrought apparently in some who loved the preheminnence, even in the Apostles time, we are at a loss, and humbly leave it with him, whose Face is not to be seen, but his back parts only, while he is passing before us in his Glory, and taking away his hand.

Hath not *New-England* experienced this great truth, What is become of the Majesty, Authority, and Glory of Christs Appearing in our Churches, unto which Christs Defence is promised when we were compleated according to Rule, as at the first: Let's take Christs Counsel, to *Remember from whence we are Fallen, & Repent*; Remember our Rulers which have declared unto us the Word of God, whose Faith follow, considering what hath been the end of their Conversation; *Jesus Christ the same yesterday, to day and for ever*. Let's not be carried about with divers doctrines, and call to mind what Memento our Reverend Norton hath left to chew upon.

In his Treatise call'd, *The Heart of New-England, rent at the Blasphemies of the Times*, whose words are: *It concerneth New-England always to remember, that originally they are a PLANTATION Religious, not a PLANTATION of Trade; the Profession of the Purity of Doctrine, Worship and Discipline, is written upon their Forehead*; a spot of this vast *Jeshimon* converted into Corn-fields, Orchards, Streets Inhabited, and a place of Merchandise cannot denominate *New-England*, all these notwithstanding if she fall away from her Profession, call her *Ichabod, The Glory is Departed*; in such a case, what was said of *Samnium*, sometimes a Famous City in *Italy*, viz. That they could not find SAMNIUM in SAMNIUM, will be verified in these Churches; viz. That NEW-ENGLAND is not to be found in NEW-ENGLAND, nor BOSTON in BOSTON. God forbid, that after *New-England* hath now shined Twenty Years and more, like a Light upon an Hill, it should at last go out in the snuff of *Morelianism*; thus far the words of *Bostons* great and second Seraphical Teacher, who Forty Years since, declared these Fears about us; as will further appear in the last page of this Scribled Narrative, in his Funeral Elegy upon Mr. Cottons Death.

When

When our Stocks and Farms were not so multiplied, nor our Trade and Merchandise so increased, nor the Number of our Members, nor Mortuaries, so great as now. As Holy *Herbert* in his Pious Poems foretold of us.

As Gold and Grace never yet did agree,
Religion alway siding with Poverty.
That as the Church shall thither *Westward* flie,
So Sin shall Trace and Dog her instantly.

Yet we could maintain our Officers. No question was then about the Ministers Tables, how they should be supplied; the Silver and Gold in *Darius*, his Exchequer was the Lords, and he brought it out to advance Temple-work; if the Church Stock needed Enlargement, a word then from the Deacons was sufficient to bring forth more then enough, yea to *Moses* calling for a restraint; such enlargeness of heart then appeared, as some old Planters may Remember.

It was an awful Speech of a Worthy Minister of the Gospel lately utter'd upon a Fast-Day in a neighbour Congregation; that he feared the Churches did not understand the cause of Gods present Controversy; that it was Reformation God looked for, who us'd this Motive to provoke to Duty; that if the present Generation did not attend and do their Duty, the next should not, and would not be capable of it; and indeed how can it be expected, That they should Reform that which they know not to be an evil, nor to fall upon practice of an unknown Precept; Pastors and Teachers are accounted as Supernumeraries; no Rule but for one Officer in a Church; and as for Ruling Elders, they have been taken up by Tradition; that there is but one word in the whole Bible for them; yet the Faith once given to the Saints, is earnestly (yet Regularly) to be contended for by them; but they will find them more than twice mentioned, in *Rom. 12.* among Church Officers, *viz. The Teacher is to attend on Teaching, the Pastor or Exhorter, on Exhortation; the Giver, to do it with simplicity; He that Ruleth, with diligence:* can there be a fuller description of the Ruling Elders Office and Work, then here is declared, & also in the Plat-form of Church Discipline. It's therefore no Humane Invention,
nor

nor Apochriphal Practice of our Predecessors: It's Remembred by some of the Old Planters Children, that there were such men, when they were young, that were called Ruling Elders; but what men they were, or what was their work, they professed they could not tell: What a shame is it to our Churches, that through *Disuse, Misuse, and Non-use* of them, such a question should be put to any of above Fifty Years of Age, now living among us; all which is affirmed for a certain known Truth.

The same Reverend man of God, being imployed the last *Narraganset* Wars, by our Worthy Elders, to make Report and Return to the General Court, of the provoking evils then found among us, did represent to them, the Churches incompleatness of Officers, to be one of the great evils, Provocations, & grounds of Displeasure unto God, then among us, some replied unto him, *That the country and Churches were poor, and could not maintain them*; he made them a Ready, Grave, and Divine Answer, *True*, (said he) *were they mens Officers*; there were argument in what they said, but being GODS Officers, there was no ground for fear of it; he having Promised and said, *Prove and try me*; if we could but trust him, he would open the Heavens, and pour down his Blessings: it's Robbing of God we are now call'd to an account for, we fear that Covetuousness, Pride, and Ambition, hinders the Discovery of our *Achan*, The Lord pour down upon this House of *David*, and the Inhabitants of *Jerusalem*, the *Spirit of Grace, and Supplication, and that he would open the Fountain for Sin and Uncleanness*; that *Holiness unto the Lord may be writ upon our hearts, houses, and employments, whether Sacred or civil, and upon our Posterity*.

As we have cause to weep over and bewail our former tears, begging that they may be washed in the Blood of the Lamb, so that these our faint Sighs and Sobs may be Cordial, and accepted in the Blood of the everlasting Covenant, that what we say, may be realized in our Souls. The good Lord direct our Hearts into the knowledge of his love; waiting for the Pouring forth of his Spirit upon ourselves, and the rising generation, that we may discern, and by the Divine Aids thereof, be enabled, to do the re-

spective work of our Generation, according to the will of GOD, before these things be hid from our Eyes.

That we may have the tasts of that Mercy and Grace, springing from the Love of the Father, who knows the thoughts of his own heart, and manifests them to poor Penitents, that they passing through the heart of him, who layeth in the Fathers Bosome, may descend into our hearts, by the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, which Blessed Circulation Reverting by the Operation of the same Spirit which maketh requests for us, who know not to pray as we ought, and passing thro' the heart, and hands of our great Mediator, may arrive, & ascend into the heart of the Father, who is the Origine and Fountain of all Blessedness, (the Father himself loving us.)

That this Spirit may make intercession for us, with Groans which can't be uttered, he that searches the hearts, knowing what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the Saints according to the Will of God; Oh that we might experience these things, that this Heavenly Dove sent into our hearts, may make us groan, and mourn, like those in the *Clefts of the Rocks*, that as the whole Creation grows, and travails in pain, with Necks stretched out, waiting to be delivered from their Bondage and Corruption, into the Liberty of the Sons of God; that we receiving the first fruits thereof, may with Eyes and Hands lifted up, wait for the Adoption, even the Redemption of our Souls and Bodies; which Great Grace, the GOD OF ALL GRACE, Grant to us, and our Poor Children, with all his ISRAEL; *For the Sake of Our Dear LORD JESUS, to whom with the FATHER, and HOLY SPIRIT, Be the Kingdom, Power, and Glory, For Ever, AMEN.*

A F U N E R A L
E L E G Y,
Upon the Death of the truly Reverend
Mr. JOHN COTTON.

Late Teacher of a Church of Christ at *Boston* in *New-England*: Who Died the Twenty Third, was Buried
the Twenty Ninth of
December. 1652.

AND after *Winthrop*, *Hooker*, *Shepherds* Herse,
Doth *Cottons* Death call for a Mourning Verse.
Thy Will be done, yet Lord who dealeth thus,
Make this great Death expedient for us.
Luther pull'd down the Pope, *Calvin* the Prelate slew,
Of *Calvin's* Lapse, chief Cure to *Cottons* due.
Cotton whose Learning, Temper, Godliness,
The *Germane* Phœnix lively did express.
Melancthon's all, may *Luther's* word but pass
Melancthon's all, in our Great *Cotton* was.
Then him in Flesh scarce dwelt a better one,
So great's our Loss when such a Spirit's gone.
Whilst he was here, Life was more Life to me,
Now he is not, Death hence less Death to me.
That Comets great mens death do oft forego,
This present Comet doth too sadly show,
This Prophet's dead, yet must in's Doctrine speak,
This Comet saith, else must New-England break.
What e're it be, the Heav'ns avert it far,
That Meteors should succeed our greatest Star.

In *Bostons* Orb *Winthrop* and *Cotton* were,
These Lights Extinct, Dark is our Hæmisphere.
In *Boston* once how much shin'd of our Glory,
VVe now Lament, Posterity will Story.
Let *Boston* live, who had and saw their VVorth,
And did them honour, both in Life and Death.
To him *New-England* trust in this Distress,
Who will not leave his Exiles Comfortless.

John Norton.

F I N I S.

Reader, Be pleased in page 18 for *Christopher Gardner*
Read Sir *Christopher Gardner*.

THE EXTINCTION OF SLAVERY IN MASSACHUSETTS.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
AT THEIR MONTHLY MEETING, APRIL, 1857,
BY EMORY WASHBURN.

MUCH interest has been felt, of late years, to know when, and under what circumstances, slavery ceased to exist in Massachusetts.

I recollect, among other evidences of this, being applied to by Mr. Webster, a few years before his death, for such facts as I happened to possess on the subject, in order to aid him in the investigation he was making in regard to the extinction of slavery here, which he said he had not been able satisfactorily to determine.

The generally received notion is, that slavery was extinguished by the adoption of the Constitution of Massachusetts, which declared all men free and equal. And it is undoubtedly true, that soon after it was adopted, it was definitely and definitively declared that the relation of master and slave did not exist within the Commonwealth.

But could we arrive at the true history of the state of public sentiment — a power often quite as strong as the law, and always, in some measure, an exponent of the law itself — we should, I think, find that the Constitution, with its Bill of Rights, was literally a *declaration* of what the people regarded as already their rights, rather than an exposition of any newly adopted abstract principles, or dogmas, to be wrought out into a practical system by any course of future legislation under a new regime.

There is no question that slavery and slaves existed here in some form, and to some extent, from the time **Maverick**

was found dwelling on Noddle's Island in 1630. Men and women were bought and sold in market, inventoried as property, and held to have the settlements of their masters in the character of slaves.

But after all, the laws on this subject, as well as the practice of the government, were inconsistent and anomalous, indicating clearly, that whether Colony or Province, so far as it felt free to follow its own inclinations, uncontrolled by the action of the mother country, Massachusetts was hostile to slavery as an institution.

Thus we find, among other evidence of the prevalence of this sentiment, one of the articles of the "Body of Liberties" which are preserved in the 8th Volume, 3d Series Historical Collections, declares "there shall never be any bond slaverie, villenage or captivitie, unless it be lawful captives, taken in just wars, and such strangers as willingly sell themselves, *or are sold to us.*" And another guaranties to all men, whether "inhabitant or foreigner, free or not free," liberty to "come to any public court, council or town meeting, and either by speech or writing, to move any lawful, or seasonable, or material question, or present any necessary motion, complaint, petition, bill or information," &c., clearly recognizing them alike as having the rights of suitors in courts, and the qualified rights of citizens, so far at least as to be heard as petitioners. And this, it will be remembered, was as early as 1641.

But I pass over the various laws and acts of the Colonists upon this subject, to notice the case of *James vs. Lechmere*, which was decided in 1769, and which involved the right of a master to hold slaves here, as we are told in Dr. Belknap's letter to Judge Tucker, 4 Hist. Coll. 1st Series, 202.*

This, it will be recollected, was nearly two years before the famous decision of Lord Mansfield, in *Somerset's* case; and if Dr. Belknap's account of the matter be cor-

* The term at which judgment in this action was rendered, was held in Suffolk, October 31, 1769. The action was commenced in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, May 2, 1769, and the plaintiff declared in trespass for assault and battery, and imprisoning and holding the plaintiff in servitude from April 11, 1758, to the date of the writ. Judgment in the lower Court was rendered for the defendant. The plaintiff appealed, and in the Superior Court the defendant was defaulted, and judgment was rendered for an agreed sum with costs.

rect, the decision rested substantially upon some of the same grounds as that on which Lord Mansfield based his opinion. "On the part of the blacks," says Dr. Belknap, "it was pleaded that the Royal Charter expressly declared all persons *born* or *residing* in the Province to be as free as the King's subjects in Great Britain; that by the laws of England, no man can be deprived of his liberty, but by the judgment of his peers; that the laws of the Province respecting an evil existing, and attempting to mitigate or regulate it, did not authorize it," &c.

That these positions were not lightly or unadvisedly taken, we may be assured from the fact that they were urged by such a man as Jonathan Sewall, at that time the Attorney General of the Province, and a profound and able lawyer.

The decision of the Court was in favor of the liberty of the negro.

And if this were the place for speculation, I should feel myself warranted in assuming that our Courts always regarded, and as early as 1769, solemnly adjudged the attempt to hold any person not captured and brought and sold here, but *born here*, as a slave, not justified by law, although he might be the child of a slave. This would not be inconsistent with the extract I have given from the "Body of Liberties," and is in accordance with what Dr. Belknap says was the ground taken in some cases — "that though the slavery of the parents be admitted, yet no disability of that kind could descend to children."

This conjecture is, moreover, strengthened by the arguments by which it was attempted to sustain slavery as an institution after the adoption of the Constitution, viz.; that the declaration in the Bill of Rights as to freedom or equality referred to *the children of slaves*, and did not emancipate such as could be proved to have been actually sold and purchased, as such, before its adoption.

I have thought these explanations a necessary and proper introduction to a brief history which I propose to offer, of the case, or rather cases, for there were three in number, involving the same point, in which by the verdict of a jury, with the approbation of the highest Court, it was declared authoritatively that slavery no longer existed in Massachusetts.

The cases to which I allude were Quork Walker *vs.* Nathaniel Jenison, Nathaniel Jenison *vs.* John Caldwell and Seth Caldwell, and the Commonwealth *vs.* Nathaniel Jenison. The civil actions were commenced in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the County of Worcester, at the June term, 1781.

The first of these was trespass for an alleged assault and beating of plaintiff by the defendant with the handle of a whip, on the 30th of the previous April.

The answer of the defendant alleged that one Caldwell being possessed of said Quork, "as of her own proper negro slave," married and became the wife of defendant, whereby he became possessed of said Quork "as of his own proper negro slave"—and "prayed judgment of the Court if said Quork to his said writ ought to be answered."

The plaintiff's replication was, that he was a freeman, and not the proper negro slave of defendant, and this was the issue raised by the pleadings of the parties, to be tried by the jury.

In the second of the above actions, Jenison sued the Caldwells in an action *of the case*, for enticing away the same Quork, a negro man and servant of the plaintiff, from his service, and rescuing him out of the plaintiff's hands, and preventing his reclaiming and reducing his said servant to his business and services, they knowing said negro to be the plaintiff's servant. He laid his damages at £1,000. The case was tried at the Inferior Court upon the *general issue*, and a verdict rendered for the plaintiff for £25. From this judgment the defendants appealed to the Superior Court, and a trial had there, in September, 1781, when a verdict was rendered for the defendants.

The indictment above-mentioned was for beating said Quork, and resulted in the conviction of the defendant.

The Court before which the first of the above cases was tried, was held by Moses Gill, Chief Justice, and Samuel Baker and Joseph Dorr, Assistant Justices.

The counsel for the plaintiff—the negro—were Caleb Strong and Levi Lincoln; for the defendant, Judge Sprague and William Stearns; and abler advocates could not then, or since, have been easily found to sustain the cause of the slave.

Neither of the judges were educated as lawyers. The Chief Justice belonged to Princeton, and was afterwards known as Governor Gill, having become the acting Governor upon the death of Governor Sumner in 1799. He was bred, and for many years engaged in the business of a merchant. Baker was a farmer in Berlin, and Dorr a farmer at that time in Ward, now Auburn, though a short time before that residing in Mendon. They were therefore probably, like the jury, the exponents of public sentiment in the direction they gave to the trial, rather than the organs of any profound legal or constitutional views in regard to the rights of the parties.

The verdict of the jury was, in substance, that said Quork "is a freeman, and not the proper negro slave of the defendant," and they assessed damages against the defendant in £60 ; and judgment was rendered accordingly.

From this judgment the plaintiff appealed, as the defendants did in the other case, as has been already stated. But after the decision of the latter case in the defendant's favor, the plaintiff failed to prosecute his appeal in this ; so that, in all the cases, the final judgment of the court was adverse to the claims of the master, and in favor of the negro, declaring and regarding him as a free man.

I have before me the brief used by Mr. Lincoln, on the trial of *Jenison vs. Caldwell*, before a jury in the Superior Court, the substance of which I propose to transcribe, the same having been kindly furnished me by his son, for many years Governor of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Lincoln was one of the ablest lawyers in the State. His business was very extensive, and he was engaged as leading counsel in some of the most important causes in several of the counties in Massachusetts, as well as in Maine. He was not only a profound and learned lawyer, but an eloquent and popular advocate. He was, at this time, in the thirty-second year of his age. In 1800, he was elected to Congress, and the following year received the appointment of Attorney-General of the United States from President Jefferson, between whom and himself there was a great personal intimacy and regard. In 1808, he discharged, for more than half a year, the duties of Governor, upon the death of Governor Sullivan, and in

1811 was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, which office he was obliged to decline by the loss of vision, which became almost total towards the close of his life.

Gov. Strong was four years the senior of Mr. Lincoln in age, but neither acted as what is known as "senior counsel," since a full closing argument was addressed to the jury by each of the counsel, one speaking in behalf of one of the defendants, and the other for the other.

Gov. Strong is too well known, in the history of Massachusetts, to render it necessary to say a word of him personally. He was the leading advocate in the western and middle parts of the State, at the bar, and a zealous champion in the cause of the oppressed.

Though the names of the counsel who were opposed to them may be less generally known or remembered, they were men of high rank and reputation.

Mr. Stearns was of Worcester, and about the same professional age as Mr. Lincoln, and in every way a respectable lawyer; but he died early, before attaining a distinguished eminence in his profession.

Judge Sprague belonged to Lancaster. He had been a member of the bar before the Revolution, and was a few years older than either Mr. Lincoln or Mr. Strong, and was then in the vigor of his manhood and power. He was, however, rather a wise and learned lawyer, than an eloquent advocate. His business extended into several counties, in which he divided the field with Lincoln and the Stronges, Simeon and Caleb, in influence and business. He was one of the few who were appointed barristers after the Revolution, and in 1798 was made Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Worcester.

Such were the counsel in those memorable causes.

The Superior Court, before which the latter case was tried, consisted of Hon. N. P. Sargent, David Sewall and James Sullivan.

The Chief Justice, William Cushing, was not present at the term when the cause was heard.

Judge Sargent was of Haverhill, a sound lawyer and upright judge, and succeeded Chief Justice Cushing upon his appointment to the United States Court. At the time

of this trial he was fifty years of age, and had then held a place upon the bench, six years.

Judge Sewall belonged to York. He was then forty-six years of age, had been a leading lawyer in that part of the State in which he resided, was appointed to this Court in 1777, and subsequently was appointed Judge of the District Court of the United States for the District of Maine. He was a classmate and personal friend of John Adams, and had a high reputation for integrity and uprightness.

The strong man of the Court, however, was James Sullivan. A self-made man, he had risen to the first rank in his profession, and been actively engaged in the events of the Revolution, and took a prominent part in the formation of the Constitution. No further evidence of his eloquence or power as an advocate and a statesman need be given, than the rank he held among such names as Dana, Lowell, Parsons, Gore and Dexter.

He was appointed to the bench of the Superior Court in 1776, then thirty-two years of age, and held the office till 1782, when he resigned and returned to the bar.

In 1790 he was appointed Attorney-General, and in 1807 was chosen Governor. He died in the office, and was succeeded, as has already been stated, for the balance of his term, by Lieutenant Governor Lincoln.

It will be perceived that those who took part in the decision of this question, were among the leading minds of the Commonwealth. They had been witnesses, and taken a more or less prominent part in the events and discussions of the Revolution, and were especially well qualified to understand and appreciate the motives, grounds and leading principles of the Constitution.

The whole subject had agitated the public mind for several years, and one Constitution, prepared in 1777-8 and submitted to the people, had been rejected by a vote of more than five to one—one reason for which is said to have been, that it contained no Bill of Rights.

The general sentiment on the subject of slavery was expressed, the same year, by an Act of the Legislature, forbidding the sale of a number of slaves, taken on board an English prize ship, and brought into Salem, and ordering them to be set at liberty.

Such, in brief, were the circumstances under which this great question of human freedom was to be decided, to serve as a precedent, for all coming time, to Massachusetts. And such were the men who took part in its decision.

It was not, as already stated, determined so much by any positive language or enactment in the Constitution, as by that all pervading sense of the community, that the time had come when that slavery, against which they had been so long struggling, was incompatible with their character as a free and independent State, and ought to be suppressed.

The strongest expression in the Constitution, perhaps, is the opening declaration of the Bill of Rights, that "all men are born free and equal," &c. Nor can too much credit be ascribed to the Hon. John Lowell in procuring the insertion of this clause, since it took from the Legislature the power of ever legalizing slavery without a radical amendment, by the people, of the organic law of the Commonwealth. But it will be perceived that the advocate for the slave, in this case, rested his claim upon the incompatibility of slavery with our condition as a people, quite as much as upon any new right declared or sustained by the Constitution. Indeed, there is nothing in the Constitution which expressly abrogates, or even recognizes slavery as an existing political institution.

The counsel for the master rested his rights, among other things, upon the following points:—

In the first place, that the negro was a servant by his own consent, and therefore the defendant was liable for enticing him away.

But to this it was answered, that if such were the case, there must be some evidence of that consent, either express or implied, and the terms of it must be understood.

Besides, some term of time must be agreed upon; for if he consented to be the plaintiff's servant, and no time were agreed upon, it would be only during his own will, which he may put an end to whenever he pleases.

But that, in fact, there was no evidence of consent in the case.

In the next place the plaintiff insisted he was his servant

by virtue of a bill of sale by which he became the property of Caldwell, from whom he passed to the plaintiff as husband of his owner, and such a bill of sale was produced on the trial.

And the general right of holding property in slaves was sustained upon several grounds.

1st. It is declared in Exodus, of a man's servant, that "he is his money."

But, said the defendant's counsel, "It is indeed said in Exodus that a man's servant is his money, and from this the counsel on the other side argues in favor of slavery."

"But are you to try cases by the old Jewish law?"

This was an indulgence to that nation, and they could only make slaves of the heathen around them. But even by their severe laws, which required an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, men were not allowed to make a slave of a brother. They might not make a slave of him, though they might hire him.

In the present case, Quork was their brother; they all had a common origin; were descended from a common parent, were clothed with the same kind of flesh, breathed the same breath of life, and had a common Saviour.

It was contended that the custom and usage of the country considered slavery as right.

But, it was replied, the objection to this is, that customs and usages which are against reason and right, are void.

So far as this question depends upon the laws of the State, any laws against the laws of nature are void. And that laws upholding slavery are against the laws of nature, he cited 1 Blackstone, 91, 131, 423.

"But is he a slave by the laws of the country?" If there are laws of the State which derogate from the rights recognized by the common law, they are to be strictly construed. And such a law is contrary to the Constitution, as well as to the laws of nature. "The air of America is too pure for a slave to breathe in."

The counsel on the other side insist that slavery is a respectable affair in this country. But the question to be decided, was not whether it was respectable or not.

Has the defendant enticed away the plaintiff's servant, as is claimed in his writ?

When a fellow-subject is restrained of his liberty, it is an attack upon every other subject, and every one has a right to aid him in regaining his liberty.

What, in this respect, are to be the consequences of your verdict? Will it not be tidings of great joy to this community? It is virtually opening the prison doors, and letting the oppressed go free!

Could they expect to triumph in their struggle with Great Britain and become free themselves, until they let those go free who were under them? Were they not acting like Pharaoh and the Egyptians, if they refused to set these free?

But the plaintiff insists that it is not true, as stated in the Constitution, that all men are born free; for children are born and placed under the power and control of their parents.

This may be. But they are not born as slaves; they are under the power of their parents, to be nursed and nurtured and educated for their good.

And the black child is born as much a free child in this sense, as if it were white.

Then, again, it is contended that the Constitution only determines *that those that have been born since its adoption are equal and free*. And they admit that since that time, every body is born free. And they say that by a different construction, people will lose their property.

This is begging the question. Is he property? If so, why not treat him as you do an article of stock—an ox or a horse?

It is again said that it is for the jury to inquire whether the custom of slavery is a good or a bad custom.

But if tried by that test, is it not a bad custom?

What are its consequences? How does slavery originate? Kidnapping and man-stealing in the negro's country, while its consequences here are, that the infant may be wrested from its mother's breast and sold or given away like a pig or a puppy, never more to be seen by the mother.

Is not this contrary to nature? Does not Heaven say so in the strongest manner? Is not one's own child as dear to the black subject as to the white one? Can a mother

forget her sucking child? Do not even the beasts and the birds nurture and bring up their offspring, while acting from their instincts?

But under such a law as this, the master has a right to separate the husband and wife. Is this consistent with the law of nature? Is it consistent with the law of nature to separate what God has joined together, and declared that no man should put asunder?

The opposite counsel, however, urge that by the laws of England a person may, for a crime, be sent into other parts of the world, away from parents, sisters and brothers, never more to return.

In the present case a subject of this free Commonwealth may be taken, without crime, from his friends, his father and mother, and sisters and brothers, and shipped off with spavined horses, as an article of merchandize, to the West Indies.

They say that in the early history of the country, slaves were needed to cultivate the earth. But instead of that, now, the employing of them does an actual injury to the poorer classes of people, by being in the way of their finding employment.

Is he a slave by the custom of the country? A custom must be general, to be binding as such. This is not a *general* custom. It has ever been against the principles of some to make slaves, and some have freed them.

It must, moreover, be undisputed, in order to be binding. But this has always been disputed—in the General Court, in the Courts of Justice, and elsewhere.

It must, besides, not be against reason.

In making out that negroes are the property of their masters, the counsel for the plaintiff speak of lineage, and contend that the children of slaves must be slaves in the same way that, because our first parents fell, we all fell with them.

But are not all mankind born in the same way? Are not their bodies clothed with the same kind of flesh? Was not the same breath of life breathed into all? We are under the same gospel dispensation, have one common Saviour, inhabit the same globe, die in the same manner, and though the white man may have his body wrapped in

fine linen, and his attire may be a little more decorated, there all distinction of man's making, ends. We all sleep on the same level in the dust. We shall all be raised by the sound of one common trump, calling unto all that are in their graves, without distinction, to arise,—shall be arraigned at one common bar, shall have one common judge, and be tried by one common jury, and condemned or acquitted by one common law—by the Gospel—the perfect law of liberty.

This cause will then be tried again, and your verdict will there be tried. Therefore, gentlemen of the jury, let me conjure you to give such a verdict now, as will stand this test, and be approved by your own minds in the last moments of your existence, and by your Judge at the last day.

It will then be tried by the laws of reason and revelation.

Is it not a law of nature, that all men are equal and free?

Is not the law of nature the law of God?

Is not the law of God then against slavery?

If there is no law of man establishing it, there is no difficulty. If there is, then the great difficulty is to determine which law you ought to obey, and if you shall have the same ideas as I have of present and future things, you will obey the former.

The worst that can happen to you for disobeying the former, is the destruction of the body; for the last, that of your souls.

Though this sketch must, from the nature of the case, be little more than a meagre outline of the respective grounds taken by the counsel in this case, enough is seen to justify the remark that the case turned and was decided upon the strong, prevailing sentiment that pervaded the community, rather than the positive provisions of the Constitution.

These, indeed, were sufficient to sustain the court and jury in the conclusions to which they came; yet I apprehend it was accomplished more by relieving the courts from the overshadowing influence of the crown, by a final

act of independent legislation, like the adoption of an organic law as a State, than by any new form of declaring personal rights or the popular will.

In 1767 and in 1774, laws against the slave trade and slavery had been passed by the Legislature, which were defeated by the Governors acting under instructions from home,—both Governors Hutchinson and Gage refusing, for that reason, to sign such bills.

This is what the counsel for the slave in the case of Quork alluded to, when they insisted that slavery had always been opposed here “in the General Court, the courts of justice, and elsewhere.”

And this is further illustrated by the fact, that while the New Hampshire courts, construing a similar provision in the Constitution of that State, are said to have adopted the views contended for by the counsel for the master in the case in our courts, viz., that it only emancipated such as were born after its adoption, our courts made no such distinction, but held the declaration as of universal application.

Nor could this have been done hastily or unadvisedly. Both of the counsel for the slave, though neither of those for the master, and one of the Judges of the Inferior Court and all the Judges of the Superior Court who sat in the case, as well as the Chief Justice, had themselves been members of the Convention which formed the Constitution, and must have understood the intention of its framers upon a subject that had so often and so recently been agitating the public mind. And their decision assumes a more than ordinarily authoritative character, inasmuch as it utters not only a judgment founded upon the language of that instrument, but speaks the sentiment which dictated that language itself.

And I may perhaps be pardoned in alluding to one other point, in this discussion, of the binding obligation of the laws of slavery; and that is, this early and most marked resort to the “higher law,” as it has been called in modern phrase. No more direct appeal to such a law could well be made, than that in which eminent counsel indulged, in this language I have quoted, in connection with the paramount obligation of the Constitution, in the formation of

which he had taken a part, and in the presence of judges who had shared with him in that office.

In conclusion I have only to add, that I have been induced to present these original memoranda of this cause, in connection with the circumstances under which it arose and was decided, that the true relation which our fathers held to slavery in Massachusetts, might be understood, and not from any wish to utter a word upon a subject which could add to the excitement which it has already awakened.

It is simply the detail of an historic fact, which it is due to the historic fame of Massachusetts, should be fully known and understood. If it does no more, it shows that descendants of Africans had the rights of free citizens in Massachusetts, years before the Constitution of the United States had been framed, or even conceived of; and history would confirm the position, that many of this very class voted as citizens, upon the election of the members of the Convention which adopted it, and in that may have been the means of securing its adoption.

LETTERS OF THOMAS CUSHING,
FROM 1767 TO 1775.

THE following letters of THOMAS CUSHING are printed from the originals in the archives of the Society. "He was sent representative from his native town for a number of years, and, A. D. 1763, when the Governor negatived Mr. Otis, who had been chosen Speaker, he was elected in his place; and he continued to fill the chair, till he was chosen one of the members of the Congress which met at Philadelphia, 1774."—*Eliot's Biographical Dictionary*. R. F., JR.

THOMAS CUSHING TO DENNYS DE BERDT.

Boston, Jan. 17, 1767.

SIR,

I now inclose you four depositions relative to the interruption our fishery has met with on the coast of Labrador, in addition to those sent before, which will be a further confirmation of the conduct of Commodore Palliser, with respect to our American vessels.

I am, in behalf of the House of Representatives, your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING, *Speaker*.

To Dennys De Berdt, Esq.

Boston, May 9th, 1767.

SIR,

Your letters of the 10th January and 14th February last, directed to the Speaker, have been duly received, and will be communicated to the House as soon as the Court meets. I am glad to find the representation of the

difficulties our trade labors under was drawn in such a manner as to be agreeable, and hope through the interest of Lord Shelburne, you will be able to obtain the *necessary* relief. We have had a variety of accounts relative to troops being sent to America; some to be stationed at New York and some at Boston. Anonymous letters have been sent from your side the water to gentlemen of character here, threatening this very hard, in order, I take it, to create an uneasiness among the people. I have, therefore, in order to quiet their minds, taken the liberty to publish an extract of your letter, and hope it will have a good tendency. A strict union and harmony betwixt Great Britain and her Colonies, is what is much desired by the people here, and ought by all means to be promoted and maintained. Reason, religion, duty and interest dictate this. It can never be violated without mutual destruction. It is with concern observed by the discerning here, that some, on both sides of the water, are and have been endeavoring, *on the one hand*, to represent the Colonies as setting up for independency, as turbulent, factious and disloyal; and *on the other hand*, are insinuating to the people here, as if those at [the] helm on your side the water were disposed to treat the Colonies with severity, and to deprive them of their most invaluable rights and privileges; in short, it seems [the] design of some people, to set us at variance, and engage us [] hostilities with one another. May the Supreme Ruler of the Universe defeat the designs of these enemies to Great Britain and the Colonies; may he give wisdom and steadiness to the present Administration, and dispose the people here to such a dutiful behavior and conduct, as will prove the falsehood of all such idle suggestions, and convince the Ministry of their affection to their mother country, and of their loyalty to the King.

It would be a fatal thing for us to get into a state of disaffection. Nothing would have so direct a tendency to bring us into such a state, as sending troops here, to enforce acts of Parliament; nothing would so soon throw the people into a flame. No one measure I could think of, would so effectually drive them into resolutions, which in the end would prove detrimental to Great Britain. I mean, living as much as possible within ourselves, and using as few as

possible of your manufactures. It would discover such a want of confidence in the duty and loyalty of the people, as would occasion great disgust.

As to imposing duties, so long as they are confined to the regulation of trade, and so conducted as to be of equal advantage to all parts of the empire, no great exception could be taken to it ; but when duties are laid with a view of raising a revenue out of the Colonies, and this revenue also to be applied to establish a civil list in America, and by this means (as the report goes) the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Judges, &c. &c., are to have their salaries fixed from home and paid out of the monies that shall be from time to time collected, by virtue of Act of Parliament already passed, or to be passed ;—this is looked upon to be unconstitutional, and it is apprehended cannot be done without vacating our charter, and in effect overthrowing our present constitution. If [an]y scheme of this nature should be on foot, I should be glad you would advise of it and let me know particularly what the scheme is, and how extensive : at the same time I doubt not, from the regard you have discovered for our interest, that you would use your influence to prevent any such measures being pursued.

The House, at their session, made you a grant of two hundred pounds sterling for your services, and the Council concurred with the House ; but His Excellency took some exceptions to the wording of it, and did not give his consent to it. I hope the House will reassume the consideration of this matter at their next sessions, and so conduct it as will be agreeable both to His Excellency and yourself.

You will please to consider I write now only as a private friend, and not in my public character, and therefore have expressed myself with more freedom and with less reserve, than, perhaps, I should otherways have done. When you favor me with a reply to this letter, please, therefore, to avoid directing to me as Speaker, and write to me only in my private character.

I am, with esteem, your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

THOMAS CUSHING TO DENNYS DE BERDT.

Boston, January 30th, 1768.

SIR,

Inclosed you have a petition to His Majesty, from the House of Representatives of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, which they desire you would get presented as soon as may be, and in such way and manner as you may judge best. You will please also to advise as soon as possible what reception it meets with. You have also enclosed three letters ; one directed to the Right Honorable the Earl of Shelburne, one to the Right Honorable Lord Camden, and the other to the Right Honorable the Marquis of Rockingham ; which the House also desire you would deliver to those noblemen.

In the name and by order of the House of Representatives, I am your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING, *Speaker.**Dennys De Berdt, Esq.*

THOMAS CUSHING TO DENNYS DE BERDT.

Boston, April 18, 1768.

SIR,

I acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 21 December last. You mention in the postscript, your having wrote to [the] House by the same conveyance, but the letter never came to hand. I am persuaded it would be quite agreeable to the House to hear from you frequently ; be sure as often as any thing occurs on your side the water that affects the interest of America. The traders here in the English way, begin to feel the effects of the measures entered into last fall, by the people here, to promote frugality and economy. As the consumption of British goods lessens, their sale diminishes, and I guess it will not be long before the merchants on your side the water will have reason to complain. The merchants in this and the neighboring Towns of Salem and Marblehead, have very gen-

erally, I may say almost universally, agreed not to import any goods from England for twelve months from this time, provided the merchants in the other Governments come into the same resolution; and I am informed that your good friend, Mr. Richard Cary, has just received a letter from a friend of his at New York, informing him that the gentlemen in trade there, had come into the like agreement, to stop the importation until the duties are taken off; and by the last accounts from Philadelphia, it was highly probable that the merchants in that city would do the like. I believe the gentlemen in trade are one and all convinced that it will be to no good purpose for them to import English goods as usual, under the present distressed and embarrassed state of the trade. They despair of ever selling them, and consequently of ever being able to pay for them. I wish those who have the management and conduct of the affairs of the nation, may see its true interest before it is too late.

As the House ordered all their letters to be printed as an appendix to their journal, I have inclosed you a set of them, presuming it will be agreeable. The Governor has signed the grant of six hundred pounds the House made you the last session, and the treasurer informed me this day that he had the promise of a bill in about three weeks, and as soon as he obtained it should remit it to you.

I write you now only as a friend, and in my private character; and I doubt not, if you can make any improvement of the intelligence I have now given you, for the benefit of America, that you will cheerfully do it.

I remain, with respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

To Dennys De Berdt, Esq.



THOMAS CUSHING TO DENNYS DE BERDT.

Boston, June 6th, 1768.

SIR,

This will be handed you by Dr. Jeffries, a gentleman worthy your notice. I therefore recommend him to your

patronage. He goes for England with a view of making some further proficiency in the business he is engaged in. Any favors you may do him while in England, I shall esteem as if done for myself.

I hope the new Parliament, when they meet, will be favorably disposed towards America, and that they will repeal the late revenue acts, which will restore that happy union, which till of late has subsisted between the mother country and these Colonies. Our money will soon be drained from us, by means of these acts, and the merchants on your side the water will soon be so sensibly affected by it as to become our greatest and warmest advocates. People here have formed great expectations from our Address to the King, and the representations to the ministry. If they are not attended to, I fear the people will be thrown into despair.

Your humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

Dennys De Berdt, Esq.



THOMAS CUSHING TO DENNYS DE BERDT.

Boston, January 19th, 1768.¹

SIR,

Your favor of the 5th of October last duly came to hand. I entirely agree with you, that the best method we can take to obtain relief from our burdens, is steadily to persevere in our scheme of economy and the non-importation of goods, which I am persuaded our merchants in general are resolutely determined to do. If any of the officers or the troops should be guilty of any outrage, or illegal conduct, we shall not incline to wait to procure redress in the Courts at Westminster, but the people are determined to prosecute them in Courts we have of our own. However, every thing at present remains quiet and peaceable. Our people behave with the greatest caution

¹ On the back of this letter is the following remark: "This letter is dated Jan. 19th, 1768. It should be 1769—for it refers—"

and prudence, so that I am persuaded the commanders of the troops and men-of-war are not a little surprised at the errand they were sent upon ; they find themselves placed among an orderly, peaceable and well-behaved people. The soldiers are continually deserting. They like the country, and it is so wide and extensive, that it will be very difficult to recover those that desert ; and the charge of their being sent and supported here, will much exceed any revenue that can be raised by the late Act.

I am glad to hear that the friends to America increase. The more this affair of a revenue is considered and thought of, the more convinced the people on your side the water will be of the impolicy and inexpediency of the measure. I shall be always ready to furnish you with all the intelligence in my power, but must beg that you would not publish any more of my letters with my name affixed to them. I write to you as a friend, and in confidence, and with more freedom than I should choose to do, if I knew my letters were to be in print. I may by this means feel the resentment of some people which I should choose to avoid. I must beg, therefore, you would not suffer any more of my letters with my name affixed to be published. I have seen his Majesty's speech to both Houses, and am much surprised that we could have been so extravagantly misrepresented, as to give occasion for him to observe that the capital Town of one of the Colonies (meaning, as I suppose, Massachusetts) was by late advices in a state of disobedience to all law and government, and had proceeded to measures subversive of the Constitution. He must have been egregiously misinformed. Nothing could have been farther from the truth than such advices. However, I hope time, which scatters and dispels the mists of error and falsehood, will place us in our true light ; and convince the administration how much they have been abused by false and malicious representations.

In the times of the late stamp act, there were riots and great mischief done ; the stamp officers through the continent were obliged to resign ; at New York, the King's fort was attacked. His Majesty at that time, in his speech to his Parliament, only just mentions that there had been some occurrences in America that demanded their atten-

tion. Now, surely, no disturbances any thing like those above-mentioned have lately occurred in America; and yet we are represented as in a state of disobedience to all law and government. How, therefore, can we account for this difference in the two speeches, but from the base and false representations that have been made by some people of this government. I hope the Parliament will make a strict and thorough inquiry into this matter; and if they do, I am persuaded they will find that those misrepresentations have been made by those who, for a long time, have been set upon having a revenue out of America, and who expect to obtain great salaries out of the same. It is their interest, therefore, at all events, so to represent matters as to accomplish their designs; but a due inquiry will discover how greatly the nation has been injured, and this people abused by this set of people.

While writing, I received your favor of the 18 November last; am glad to hear the petitions from the other Colonies are come to hand, and that they, together with ours, will be brought before the Parliament. I hope not only a good part, but all the troops will soon be removed, as there is not the least occasion for them. The continuing any part of them here, will only serve to interrupt that harmony which ought ever to subsist between the two countries. It will keep in remembrance what ought to be forgot, as soon as possible, viz., the ill-treatment we have received, and the impeachment of our loyalty and love of good order. This has been a matter of grief to the people here, and has deeply wounded them. The removal of the Board of Commissioners I hope will take place at the same time.

I am surprised you should think our town meeting was disorderly. It was remarked by several strangers that were present, gentlemen of very respectable characters, that it was one of the most regular, decent, and orderly town meetings that ever they were at; every thing was conducted with the utmost propriety, good order, and decorum, and I cannot say it was in any respect culpable. There was one vote, recommending the inhabitants to be provided with arms, according to law, which I wish had been omitted—perhaps it was unadvised, but many people



thought it prudent, as they apprehended there was a probability of a French war, and there is no accounting for people's apprehensions. The public accounts afforded some grounds for such apprehensions ; however, upon the whole, all circumstances considered, I think it had better been let alone. But suppose we have in any of our proceedings been somewhat irregular and culpable, is there no allowance to be made for a people under such distress, and anxiously concerned for the preservation of their rights and privileges, which they apprehend infringed by the late Acts—at the same time their petitions frowned upon, and are told unless they give up their rights they shall not be heard ; every attempt they make to unite in their supplications for relief, called an incentive to rebellion ; military and naval forces sent to execute Acts of Parliament to raise a revenue, not for the benefit of the nation, but to support a number of useless officers ; our Assembly dissolved because they would not obey a ministerial order, which to have complied with would have been directly against the light of their consciences. Pray, Sir, under these circumstances, can it be wondered at if some disorder should happen, if some improprieties in conduct should take place ?

In such a situation, deprived of an Assembly, what could be more wise than to call a Convention of prudent men from each town, to consult and advise for the peace and safety of the community ? This was done, and it had an happy effect ; and if the Convention was a prudent measure, certainly the town meeting which gave rise to it cannot be called disorderly and culpable, for so salutary a measure. The Governor yesterday shew me a letter from Lord Hillsborough, wherein he endeavors to exculpate himself with respect to our petitions not being seasonably delivered to the King. If I remember the letter right, he says you never offered him the petition ; but Mr. Sayer being at his house, some mention was made of such a petition by Lord Hillsborough, and Mr. Sayer told him there was such an one, and if his Lordship desired it he could let him have a sight of it. Accordingly some time after, Mr. Sayer sent it to his Lordship, inclosed in a letter, (a copy of which he has sent the Governor,) wherein Mr.

Sayer desires him to present it to His Majesty. This, he says, was the way he received it—not directly from the agent, or any person that was properly impowered to deliver it, and without any document to prove it to be a petition from the Massachusetts Bay. Under these circumstances he did see his way clear, *as Secretary of State*, to offer the petition to His Majesty. I do not pretend to give you the very words of his Lordship's letter, but this I think is the substance and purport of it.// Inclosed you have the newspapers.

I conclude with respect,

Your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

To Denny De Berdt, Esq.

P. S.—I have [written] you with freedom; you will please therefore to show this letter with caution, and excuse the incorrectness of it, the vessel being just upon sailing.

Yrs, T. C.



THOMAS CUSHING TO STEPHEN SAYER.

Boston, November 6, 1770.

SIR,

I have received your favors of the 15 June and 4 July last, inclosing sundry copies of letters, for which I very kindly thank you. I am also obliged to you for the Pamphlet handed me by Mr. Cary, entitled the Political Detection, wrote by *Junius Americanus*.¹ I esteem it a valuable present. It is certainly very cruel and unjust, that the state and circumstances of the Province should be collected from the evidence of Bernard, Robinson, and other expectants and dependants, who are notorious for their prejudices and resentments against this people. It will still be more cruel, if the Parliament should take for *fact*, what they have represented *to be so*, and upon such ground form their future resolutions, and proceed to make any alterations in

¹ Dr. Arthur Lee.

the Charter of this Province, without previously notifying us what charges are brought against us. The Parliament, if they are impartial, must determine that we ought to be heard before we are condemned and punished, with the loss of any of our privileges: the very first principles of justice, the constant tenor of all judicial proceedings, demand this.

The House, on the 24 October, proceeded to the choice of an Agent for one year. I repeatedly mentioned, previous to the choice, to the members, your past services and exertions in behalf of the Province, as also Dr. Lee's; but as you were known to but very few of the members, and many of them were well acquainted with Dr. Franklin, upon sorting and counting the votes, it appeared Dr. Franklin had the majority; since which, the House have made choice of Dr. Lee, as their Agent, in case of the death or absence of Dr. Franklin, which I doubt not you will approve of, as I know Dr. Lee stands high in your esteem. Your recommendation of him as a suitable person for an Agent, to Mr. Cary, had a considerable influence in this matter.

I have been informed that the ministry have given up all thoughts of raising a revenue out of America, as they find it attended with insuperable difficulties, and that they would willingly put us upon the same footing we were upon before any of the revenue acts were passed; but are fearful if they should do this, it would not make us quiet and easy, but we should rise in our demands and insist upon the repeal of the navigation acts, and be contented with little short, if any thing, of a state of independency. But I can assure you that is so far from the truth, that in case the revenue acts were repealed, the Board of Commissioners removed, and the troops withdrawn, and we were put in the same state we were in before the stamp act was passed, that people in general would be satisfied; and so far from being desirous of being independent of Great Britain, that they would dread the very thoughts of it. The Parliament's repealing the stamp act was very acceptable to the Colonies, and the late repeal of the duties imposed on all the articles, (tea excepted,) in the 7 of Geo. the Third, has been considered by many people as a conciliating measure,

and therefore they have used their influence to put an end to the non-importation agreement, and that all goods, except dutiable articles, should be imported as usual. The Court have also agreed to proceed upon business, notwithstanding they are still restrained, by instruction, from holding the General Court at the only established place, the Town House in Boston. It is therefore hoped that these movements will be considered by the ministry as conciliating, and if they know how to improve events, I should think they would embrace this opportunity to retire to their old ground, and place us in the same situation we were in previous to the passing the late stamp act, and by this means restore tranquillity to the Colonies, and that union and harmony which heretofore subsisted between Great Britain and this country; but if administration should continue these severe measures, it will be difficult to say what will be the consequence.

I remain, with respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

P. S.—The House have made a grant to Mr. De Berdt, of £750 sterling, for his services a' November, 1767, to May, 1770.

Mr. Stephen Sayer.



THOMAS CUSHING TO ROGER SHERMAN.

Boston, Jan'y 21st, 1772.¹

SIR,

* * * * *

I heartily wish, with you, that some measures might be come into to revive the union of the Colonies. To place any great dependence upon the virtue of the people in general, as to their refraining from the use of any of the duty articles, will be in vain. The only thing we can at present depend upon, is the conduct of the several Assemblies, through the continent; and however the people in

¹ The first paragraph of this letter relates to private affairs.

general may be induced, for peace' sake, or from a sense of their inability to submit at present in some instances to the exercise of what they apprehend, the usurped authority of Parliament, the Assemblies ought to keep a watchful eye upon their liberties, and from time to time to assert their rights in solemn resolves, and continually to keep their Agents instructed upon this important subject, and to renew their memorials to the King, for the redress of their grievances and the restoring their privileges. It might be well, also, for each Assembly to be considering what shall be their conduct as soon as a war commences. It is highly probable it will not be long before the nation is involved in a bloody war with some of the European nations, perhaps next spring; upon the commencement of which, we may depend upon their applying to the several Colonies for assistance, by furnishing them with men and money. It is of great importance, therefore, that the Colonies, at such a juncture, should act one and the same part. Is it not, therefore, high time that each Assembly should be meditating what answers they should give, and what conduct they should pursue, in consequence of any such requisitions? Then, certainly, will be the time to settle matters upon a secure and permanent footing, especially if we can all agree upon one and the same plan of conduct: would it not then be expedient to consult one another upon this subject, as soon as possible. You are sensible this Province, by being foremost in such measures, has brought the whole resentment of Great Britain upon them. We suffer at this day, more than all the Colonies together: would it not, therefore, be reasonable that your Colony, or some other, should take the lead in this matter. Pray consider of it, and let me know your sentiments upon this subject. I write in confidence, as to a friend, and therefore shall depend upon your not mentioning this proposal as coming from me, for many reasons which I shall communicate to you when I have the pleasure of seeing you at Boston. In the mean [] remain with respect,

Your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

To the Honorable Roger Sherman, Esq., at New Haven, Connecticut.

THOMAS CUSHING TO ARTHUR LEE.

Boston, September, 1773.

SIR,

The latter end of June last, I wrote you that the House of Representatives had directed Dr. Franklin to employ you as counsel, in support of their petition to the King for the removal of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor ; since which I have received your favor of the 10th June. I observe the Governor, by reviving the late dispute, has lost credit on your side the water, as well as on ours. The Ministry, I understand, are greatly chagrined at his officiousness, their intention having been to let all controversy subside, and by degrees suffer matters to return to their old channel. This dispute, though it may in some measure retard the redress of our grievance, has upon the whole been of advantage to America. We have gained ground by it. However, I entirely agree with you in sentiment, (as expressed in your letter to Mr. Adams,) that it is not worth our while to press this matter too far, at this time. You justly observe that the government at home are daily growing weaker, while we in America are continually growing stronger. Our natural increase in wealth and population, will in a course of years, effectually settle this dispute in our favor, whereas if we persist in openly and strenuously denying the right of Parliament to legislate for us in any case whatever, and should insist upon their yielding up this right, they may think us very extravagant in our demands, and hence there will be great danger of bringing on a rupture fatal to both countries. Whereas if these high points about the supreme authority of Parliament were to fall asleep, and Administration would desist from the exercise of this right, and the present system of American laws and regulations, adopted upon the idea of raising a revenue out of America, was abolished, I should think Great Britain would regain the affections of the people in America, retrieve her commerce, and recall that confidence in her wisdom and justice, which is so necessary for the mutual interest of both countries.

I cannot agree with [you in] sentiment that Lord

Dartmouth is that kind of man that will never do any good. I have lately been favored with a letter from his Lordship. His sentiments are truly noble and generous; they well comport with his high station, and fully justify that confidence which His Majesty's American subjects repose in his wisdom and justice. He seems disposed and desirous of having union and harmony between both countries restored upon a fair, candid and equitable footing. At the same [time] I am fully of opinion with you, that it is to ourselves we ought to trust, and not to the persons who may be in power on your side the water; and I hope we shall always act with prudence and firmness, notwithstanding it may have been represented to His Majesty, that the doctrines contained in the House's answer to the Governor's speech, were to be imputed to a few men of artifice, who mislead the House. Administration ought to know, that the men who made and passed those answers, were not men of *artifice*, but, as Lord Coke says of ancient commoners, they were *grave and sad men*, and men of property; that they and the present House were and are willing that these points should fall asleep; but when the Governor put them in such a situation that either they must speak out, or by their silence concede and give up their rights, they judged and will always judge it their duty, respectfully and modestly, yet plainly, to assert them.

To Dr. Lee.



THOMAS CUSHING TO ARTHUR LEE.

Boston, October, 1773.

SIR,

Since my last, have not received any of your favors. Dr. Franklin writes me that he thinks of leaving England very soon, and informs me that some time before his departure, he shall put the Province papers into your hands, and speaks very handsomely of Dr. Lee, from which I conclude there is a good understanding between you and the Doctor, which gives me great pleasure. The Doctor has discovered himself to be an able, disinterested and zealous

defender of the rights of the Americans, and I believe has been sincerely attached to the interest and prosperity of this Province. I now transmit you the Journal of the House of Representatives for the last sessions, as also a sermon preached by Mr. Turner, before the General Assembly, the last May, of which I crave your acceptance.

The Parliament, it seems, the last sessions, did nothing for the relief of America. I hope the Administration design to advise to it the next session. A war, it is apprehended, is near at hand; our aids will then be wanted, consequently our friendship courted, and our claims attended to. It is against this event, as you justly observe, we should be prepared, that the opportunity it will offer of vindicating our rights may not pass away unimproved. But I am not without my fears that, when this crisis arrives, the Colonies, considering how differently the several governments are constituted, will widely differ in what their rights are. It would be very happy, that if, when requisitions may be made upon the Colonies for men and money, they could all agree upon one and the same answer, and upon insisting upon the same terms of relief or redress. Some have thought, that in case of war, if the several Assemblies through the continent should firmly agree with each other not to grant any aids to the Crown, in a general war, until the whole system of American laws and regulations, adopted upon the idea of raising a revenue out of America, were abolished, it would be very happy, and as far as it could rationally be expected, the Colonies in general would go, and as much as could rationally be expected from Great Britain at present; that if the Administration once retired from this system which had occasioned so much trouble and uneasiness to both countries, they would never attempt the reassumption of them. Others have thought, that the Colonies ought to agree not to grant any aids, until the Declaratory Act, passed immediately upon the repeal of the Stamp Act, was repealed, and Great Britain agreed that they had not a right to make laws to bind the King's subjects in America, in any case whatsoever. But these terms, it is thought by many, never would be insisted upon by all the Colonies, if by any; and if they should, they [would] never be complied with by Great

Britain, but would be considered as a plain indication that the Colonies were not disposed to come to any settlement with them at all, but chose to be entirely independent of them, and so there might be great danger of a fatal rupture—of prematurely bringing on a contest, to which, if we are not found equal, that authority will by the event be more strongly established; and if we should prove superior, yet by the division the general strength of the British nation must be greatly diminished; whereas the daily increasing strength *in wealth and numbers* and importance of America to Great Britain, must in a little time bring us all we want or can desire, and in peace and safety to both countries.

To Dr. Lee.



THOMAS CUSHING TO JOSEPH REED.

Boston, April 23, 1774.

SIR,

It is some time since I have had the pleasure of any of your favors.

Our spring ships have just arrived from London. By them we are informed what reception the news of the destruction of the tea at Boston, and the return of it from Philadelphia, has met with. The Ministry were, at first, very high, and threatened to use us with great severity; but upon further consideration they cooled down, and it is not yet known what steps will be taken by government with regard to the Colonies. We have also a full account of the treatment our petition for the removal of the Governor and our Agent have met with. The public papers will so fully inform you upon this head, that it will be needless for me to enlarge. You can have no conception of the rage the ministerial people have been in with Dr. Franklin, on account of his transmitting the late famous letters. His faithful services to America, have been rewarded by the Ministers taking from him the office of Postmaster General of North America; he has been greatly abused and re-

viled ; he has resigned his Agency, having no hopes of being any farther useful.

I beg leave to recommend to your friendly notice, Col. Jeremiah Lee of Marblehead, and Tristram Dalton, Esq., of Newburyport, gentlemen in trade, of fortune, and of good character, who are upon a tour of pleasure to the southward, and whose acquaintance, I doubt not, will give you pleasure.

Joseph Reed, Esq.



THOMAS CUSHING TO WILLIAM COOPER.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

I received yours of the 24th September, on the 21st instant, and not before. What has delayed its passage here, I cannot say. I wrote you the beginning of this month, but have not as yet been favored with an answer ; wish our friends would write us more frequently. I am obliged to you for the inquiry you made at Dedham, for a house for me ; should be glad to govern myself by the opinion of the County, as to the place of holding the probate, provided at this difficult time I can be accommodated with such a place as will be agreeable to them. If I had been so happy as to have seen you before I left Watertown, I doubt whether it would have been proper for me to have signed any blank letters of administration, or letters of guardianship, before I had my commission, and more than a month before, by law, I could have entered upon the discharge of the office I was appointed to ; for, if you will recollect, you will find, that, by the law that was made by the General Court upon this occasion, none of the new appointments were to take place till after the 20 of September last. This matter I considered before I left Watertown, or else should certainly have seen you previous to my departure, and have signed the papers you mention, which I am sensible, could it have been done with any propriety, would have been for the

ease of the County. I am much surprised that any persons among us should just now think of dividing the County, especially at this very critical time, when we have so many other matters of the greatest magnitude to engage our attention. Such a thing was never attempted in any other County, without first notifying every town in the County of such an intention. Can the inhabitants of Boston, (the shire town, whose interest it so nearly affects,) in their present distressed, dispersed state, attend to a question of such moment? Certainly not. And will the inhabitants of the other Towns in the County take the advantage of this their distress? or if they would, will the General Court attend to them at such a time? Certainly not.

Whenever a bill for determining what offices are incompatible with each other, shall be brought into the House, I hope it will be considered with great attention and due deliberation. There are many difficulties attending such a measure, which at first view may not be thought of. I hope we shall not run from one extreme to another. I sincerely wish the Court may be directed to such a conduct as may tend effectually to strengthen our happy constitution, and be for the lasting benefit of the government.

I am glad to find General Washington is fitting out some vessels of war. This is a necessary measure, as our enemies are daily pirating our vessels. I have frequently urged it here. As to the establishment of Courts of Admiralty, that will come on of course; but it will not do to urge it *here* at present. I cannot as yet form any judgment when I shall be able to return. Many interesting and important matters demand my attention and presence here. As, therefore, I shall be necessarily detained here for some time, I have no objection that, during my absence, you should take guardian and administration bonds, in particular cases, where you may find it necessary; and I doubt not you will take special care and caution, that in all such cases the bondsmen are good and sufficient. Let me know whether it is necessary for me to return home immediately. Our late President, Mr. Randolph, died yesterday, of the palsy. He is to be buried to-morrow. He was a worthy character; he was sensible, a gentleman of an even temper and of sound judgment; he died engaged in a good

cause. My friend, let us follow his example. Let us persevere in supporting this good cause. Let us act with zeal, not rashness. Let no attachment to persons, parties, or factions, lead us from the path of duty; but let us be calm, firm, steady, and unwearied in our endeavors to serve our country. In this way Heaven will smile upon our exertions, and I doubt not the good Lord will send us glorious deliverance.

I congratulate you upon your late promotion as Speaker. [When] my friend is honored and meets with the approbation of his countrymen, I partake of the pleasure, and am always highly gratified.

I conclude, dear Sir, with the greatest esteem and [] your friend and servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

The Honorable William Cooper, Esq.

QUERIES OF GEORGE CHALMERS,

WITH THE ANSWERS OF GENERAL GAGE, IN RELATION TO BRADDOCK'S EXPEDITION—THE STAMP ACT—AND GAGE'S ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

THESE papers are copied from a folio volume of manuscripts, lettered "Papers relating to Canada," in the Collection of Thomas Aspinwall, one of the Publishing Committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 1857.

Q U E R I E S .

Mr. Chalmers begs leave to submit the following memoranda to General Gage; and desires the favor of such information, either verbal or written, as may be in the power or inclination, of the General to give.

1st Query. What was the true military cause of General Braddock's disaster?

2d Q'y. What were the genuine reasons of the military failures, or want of success, during the early campaigns of the war of 1755? Is Major Mant's, or any other printed account of the military transactions, during those campaigns, so exact and faithful, as to merit attentive perusal?

3d Q'y. What was the military establishment of the American army, after the peace of 1763? How many troops were there in the Continental Colonies, during the Stamp Act disturbances?

4th Q'y. What was the true object of General Mackay's visit to Boston, about the year 1768 or '69; and what success attended his intrigues?

5th Q'y. Was not General Gage averse to returning to America in 1773-4; and did he not, for some time, decline to accept of the commission of Governor of Massachusetts, knowing, as he did, the true state of affairs, and foreseeing the consequences?

6th Q'y. When he did, at length, accept, by the interposition of the King, were not his hands tied, by instructions, from executing any measure, that might be deemed a measure of irritation ?

7th Q'y. Did not the General inform Lord Dartmouth, in 1774, that he must consider the *Revolt* as *universal* ; that — number of troops would be necessary ; and was not a copy of this letter sent back to the Faction at Boston ?

8th Q'y. Did not the General know that the Secretary of State carried on a secret correspondence with Cushing, during the year 1774 ?

9th Q'y. Was it not apparent to the General, that the people of the Colonies were instigated by certain persons in Britain ; and were not the letters of such persons found in Cushing's house ? What were the dates and contents of such letters ?

10th Q'y. What evidence was there of the design of the malcontents to surprise Boston, with a view to massacre the troops ? What number of forces were there at Boston, in April, 1775 ?

As Mr. Chalmers writes chiefly from written documents, he will be much obliged to the General, for the perusal of any copies of despatches, or any written memorials, with regard to the beforementioned interesting affairs ; and the General may rely on his discretion.



ANSWERS TO THE QUERIES.

1st and 2d Queries. The cause of General Braddock's disaster, is to be attributed, first, to the Province's disappointing him in the carriages and provisions, they engaged to furnish by a stated time ; by which he was detained several weeks, when otherwise ready to proceed ; and the plan he had concerted with the Governors, to march with expedition to Fort Duquesne, before the enemies' reinforcements could arrive, was, by that means, prevented ;

secondly to his being defeated near the Monongahela, the cause of which was his own inexperience, and that of his troops, of the kind of country in which the war was carried on, and of the enemy he was to engage, whose manner of fighting was new to Europeans, though adapted to their circumstances and the nature of the country, in which heavy fires from close and compact bodies would not prevail.

Two expeditions had been concerted in 1755; one to remove the French from the Ohio, abovementioned; the other, under Mr. Shirley, Governor of Massachusetts Bay, had for object, the securing the pass into the British Provinces, by Oswego, and to remove the French from Niagara and Fort Frontenac, on the West and East sides of Lake Ontario. Two new raised regiments, with Provincial troops of New England, New York and Jersey, were appointed for this service; and so much time was lost, through delays, mistakes, &c., in setting forward these troops, that the enemy had full time to reinforce and secure their posts, and Braddock was defeated, before they got to their rendezvous. General Shirley raised some works at Oswego, left troops to defend them, and returned with the rest. Having never read Major Mant's or other printed accounts, can only judge, from the reports of some people of knowledge, who have examined them, that they do not merit an attentive perusal, being compiled chiefly from relations found in newspapers and the public orders, and destitute of the knowledge of the true causes of events.

It may not be improper here to notice the origin of the hostilities commenced in 1755. The Indian tribes had long complained of encroachments upon their lands, without getting more satisfaction, than fair words and empty promises. Instead of doing them justice, a society called the Ohio Company, was formed, whose object was to obtain large districts of country upon or near the Ohio, for its members; and it was so openly avowed, that the Indians became acquainted with the design. They remonstrated against the injustice of it, and at length, tired out, told the English they were an infatuated people, deserted them, and applied to the French for protection.

Their entreaties first brought the French upon the Ohio,

who declared they came there only as friends and allies to the Indians, and to protect their property. Alarmed at the proximity of the French, the Provinces clamoured, the Governors applied for assistance, and troops were unfortunately sent to America.

From the above, it may be seen that the primary causes of the war of 1755, which extended itself over the four parts of the world, are to be traced to the banks of the Ohio; and that Britain was then, as she always has been, duped by her Colonies.

3d Qy. The military establishment of the American army, after the peace of 1763, consisted of fifteen regiments, reduced to low numbers, which were dispersed through Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, Canada, Illinois country, East and West Florida, the Indian ports, &c. &c.; all of them some hundreds of miles distant from the old Colonies. This was their situation, at the time of the Stamp Act; when no Governor would ask, it might be said dared to ask, for the aid of troops, nor any Council advise it.

4th Qy. A vessel having been seized by the officers of the customs at Boston, the people rose and forced the Commissioners of the customs to fly to Castle William, then garrisoned by a Provincial company of soldiers, and committed other outrages. This was the cause of sending out General Mackay, with two regiments, and supposed to have been done to show a resolution in Government to protect the crown officers. No success attended the measure. The Council petitioned the Governor, and also the commander in chief, to remove the troops from the town; the Justices, in a body, refused to quarter them, and they were lodged in hired buildings. Broils soon commenced between the townsmen, ready to insult the military, and the soldiers, as ready to chastise an insult. General Mackay returned, quarrels increased, and at length the leaders of the mob raised a general riot. Every straggling soldier, and some sentinels on duty, were beat, and the guards threatened and pelted. The troops got under arms, the conflict grew warmer, and a few soldiers fired, killed or wounded six or seven rioters, for which Captain Preston was imprisoned and tried. The Town and Province insisted, that the troops should be removed. The Governor could neither

order it, nor dissent from it. And Colonel Dalrymple, who commanded the troops, sent both of the regiments to Castle William. Thus the matter ended without further notice.

5th Q'y. The General, not long from his command by leave, and still holding it, made no objection to return to his duty, but was averse to taking the Government of the Massachusetts Bay. He desired at length, that a much larger force than four weak regiments might be sent out, and the Town of Boston be declared in rebellion, without which his hands would be tied up. He was encouraged in the last by one of the greatest lawyers in the kingdom, who said in his presence, that the Boston Port Bill was unjustifiable, unless enacted against a people actually in rebellion.

6th Q'y. The instructions were consistent with the laws of the constitution. The rioters who destroyed the Tea, were to be prosecuted, according to the forms of law, and what is worthy of remark, is, that of the thousands concerned in that riot, or who were spectators of it, only one witness could be procured to give testimony against them, and that one conditionally, that the delinquents should be tried in England.

7th Q'y. The fullest information was transmitted home of the certainty of an universal revolt; and a body of twenty thousand men was required to begin the war. It cannot be said that copies of any letters, containing such information, were sent back to the faction; but they received such good, full, and expeditious intelligence of all matters transacting in England, that every thing is to be suspected.

8th Q'y. The General did not know that the Secretary of State carried on a secret correspondence with Cushing, during the year 1774. Has heard that a letter from him, had been found in Cushing's house; but neither heard the contents or date of it.

9th Q'y. It was very apparent, that the people in the Colonies were instigated by persons in Britain, who sent them the earliest and best intelligence. A letter from Bristol, to Doctor Cooper, signed with a fictitious name, was intercepted, encouraging them to take arms, and giving

assurance of a rising in England, the moment blood should be shed in America. An instance of the intelligence sent them is, that on the arrival of two vessels at Marblehead, on the 8th of April, 1775, an unusual hurry and commotion was perceived among the disaffected. It being on a Sunday morning, Doctor Cooper, a notorious rebel, was officiating in his meeting-house, and on notice given him, pretended sudden sickness, went home and sent to another clergyman to do his duty in the evening. He with every other chief of the faction left Boston before night, and never returned to it. The cause, at the time unknown, was discovered on the 14th of said month, when a vessel arrived with government despatches, which contained directions to seize the persons of certain notorious rebels. It was too late. They had received timely notice of their danger, and were fled.

The letters found in Cushing's house, were shown to General Howe. Very few, and those of little consequence, were produced, till he had taken the command. D—— M——, can give the best account of them.

10th Q'y. Intelligence was sent from several parts of the country, that something of moment was in agitation; the leaders busily employed, and the militia preparing their arms. A gentleman in the town received repeated messages from a particular friend, entreating him to leave the Town, with his family, that they might be safe from danger; and that gentleman communicated the affair to the Governor, requesting him, at the same time, not to despise the intelligence he gave, as his friend was acquainted with the most secret intentions of the rebels. Precautions were immediately taken to defeat the design, at which the faction in the town showed disappointment; and some were overheard talking about it, and to say, it must now be given up. No other evidence can be given of the design of the malcontents to surprise and massacre the troops.

In the beginning of 1775, there were about three thousand men in Boston. More arrived between July and November.

DESTRUCTION OF THE TEA,

IN THE HARBOR OF BOSTON, DECEMBER 16, 1773.

THE three following Letters have been transcribed from the originals. Dr. Franklin and Arthur Lee were Agents for the Massachusetts House of Representatives in London, at the time the Letters were written.

The account of Dr. Williamson's Examination before the King's Council, has likewise been copied from a paper in his own handwriting. He was a passenger in the first ship which arrived in England from Boston, after the destruction of the tea.

JARED SPARKS.

June 12, 1856.

DR. COOPER TO DR. FRANKLIN.

Boston, December 17th, 1773.

DEAR SIR,

I missed the opportunity of sending you the above, and am now to give you an account of what has since happened among us.

Upon information that the tea, with the American duty upon it, was certainly shipped, and might soon be expected, we heard of an opposition forming in New York and Philadelphia, and measures concerted there to induce the resignation of the consignees. Our patriots determined to second their brethren in the other Colonies, and appointed a meeting of the people, at Liberty Tree, at noon-day, to receive the resignation of the consignees for this Province. But they chose not to appear, upon this intimation, at that place. A committee was then chosen to wait on them at the store, where all the consignees were met, to know if they would resign this commission. A great part of the body, without a vote for it, accompanied the committee. The answer was rough and peremptory, "No resignation."

Soon after, the Governor called a council, and the consignees petitioned that the tea, upon its arrival, might be under their protection. The council declined having anything to do with it. A town meeting was legally called, and a respectable committee chosen, who repeatedly attempted to obtain the almost universally desired resignation, but without effect. The consignees insisted upon landing the tea, though they conceded to store it, till they could hear from their constituents. We soon were informed, that the consignees at New York and Philadelphia behaved in a soothing manner to the people, and, upon being assured that the tea was still dutied there, declared, without reserve, that they would not have the least share in executing a commission so disagreeable to their fellow-citizens.

About this time a number of people assembled in the evening, before Mr. Clark's house, from which a musket or pistol was fired upon them, without any damages, and they, in return, broke his windows and retired. Soon after, the consignees, who consulted with the Governor, &c., in every step, returned to the castle, in imitation of the commissioners, and, with similar views and hopes, no doubt, where they have remained ever since, except Mr. Joshua Winslow, who lately arrived from Nova Scotia, and lives at Marshfield.

Upon the arrival of the tea, an assembly of the people was called—it proved as large as any ever known here—of which Mr. Hancock was moderator. Great numbers from the neighboring towns united in it, and, indeed, the people in the country have all along been equally zealous with their brethren in Boston, in this common cause ; and there is now established a correspondence and union between them, never known before. The moderator and people were strongly desirous of preserving the tea untouched, for the East-India Company. They labored this point with undissembled ardor, and great patience. They considered, however, that landing the tea would insure the duty, that it might be smuggled from the castle, and that the price of tea, higher among us than to the southward, would be almost an invincible temptation to this. They insisted, therefore, that it should go back in the same bottoms. They urged this

upon the consignees with great earnestness, from an apprehension that the tea, in the present temper of the Province, would not be safe; but in vain; they could not be persuaded to further concessions than before. The master and owner were then called, who, seeing the irresistible torrent, engaged that the tea should return as it came. Two other vessels, freighted with it, arrived, and the same engagement was made for them.

There we thought the matter would have ended. But the Governor, consignees, revenue officers, &c., raised obstacles to this measure, and seemed to choose that the tea should be destroyed, and the exasperation of both countries heightened. Another assembly of the people was called, of which a country gentleman was moderator. The owner of the ship first arrived, appeared before them, and pleaded that if they held him to his engagement to carry the tea back, he should be ruined for want of clearances, &c. He was desired by the people to apply to the custom-house for a clearance, which he did, and was refused. He was then desired to wait on the Governor at Milton, for a pass at the castle, which was also refused.

The people waited for his return till dark, last evening. As soon as the Governor's refusal was known, the assembly was dissolved. Just before the dissolution, two or three hundred persons, in dress and appearance like Indians, passed by the Old South meeting-house, where the assembly was held, gave a war-whoop, and hastened to the wharf, where all the tea ships lay, and demanding the tea, which was given up to them without the least resistance, they soon emptied all the chests into the harbor, to the amount of about three hundred and forty. This was done without injury to any other property or to any man's person. An interloper, indeed, who had found means to fill his pockets with tea, upon being discovered, was stripped of his booty and his clothes together, and sent home naked. A remarkable instance of order and justice among savages. When they had done their business, they silently departed, and the town has been remarkably quiet ever since.

This was done last evening, and had it been deferred a few hours longer, the tea, it was supposed, would have been taken under the protection of the admiral, at the castle.

The Governor, collector, and consignees, most certainly had it in their power to have saved this destruction, and returned it undiminished to the owners in England; as the people were extremely desirous of this, did every thing in their power to accomplish it, and waited so long for this purpose, as to run no small risk of being frustrated in their grand design of preventing its being landed.

The fourth, and only remaining vessel, with tea, Captain Loring, is ashore near Cape Cod, the cargo likely to be saved; but what will become of the tea, brought in that bottom, time will discover. We have no account that any has yet arrived at New-York or Philadelphia. It is not doubted, however, that, from the latter place, it will be all sent back, and should it be landed in the former, that it will remain unvented in the fort. To the warm and violent opposition made here, the people have been partly, at least, excited by their brethren in those places, and by the merchants in London; but the principle upon which they acted, was a thorough detestation of the insidious design of Administration, to establish and increase the American revenue upon this article, after fair and repeated professions of an intention to relieve us. In what manner it will resent the treatment we have given to this exasperating measure, is uncertain; but thus much is certain, that the country is united with the town, and the Colonies with one another, in the common cause, more firmly than ever. Should a greater military power be sent among us, it can never alter the fixed sentiments of the people, though it would increase the public confusion, and tend to plunge both countries into the most unhappy circumstances.

The tories, or tools of Hutchinson, seem struck with a panic; some of them own now the impossibility of supporting the measures of Administration, and a necessity of its being changed. The longer the Governor is continued, the more plainly this necessity will appear. In this view, there are some wise friends to this country, who do not regret his continuance in the chair. The last hope of him and his friends is, to govern wholly by a military power.

I am, &c.

SAMUEL COOPER.

TO ARTHUR LEE.

Boston, December 21st, 1773.

SIR,

It has been the expectation of many of the Colonists, that the last session of Parliament would have put a final end to those grievances under which they had so long been oppressed, and against which they had so long in vain remonstrated. They expected that the Revenue Acts would have been repealed, and that they should no more have had reason to complain of the unconstitutional exertions of Parliamentary power. They were naturally led to form these expectations from the conduct of Administration, who lately encouraged them with assurances, that if all things remained quiet in America, these unhappy dissensions would soon terminate in a lasting union. But how, Sir, were they surprised to find they had been deceived; to find that the Parliament, at the very time they expected relief, pursued new measures for effectually securing and enhancing these oppressive revenues; and with this majority, an Act, passed the last session, empowered the East India Company to ship their teas to America.

From this Act, they readily saw that they had nothing to hope from the favor of Administration, but that they rather discovered an indisposition that the Parliament should grant them any relief; they considered the Act as introductive of monopolies which, besides the train of evils that attend them in a commercial view, are forever dangerous to public liberty, more especially under the direction and influence of government; they also looked upon it pregnant with new grievances, paving the way to further impositions, and in its consequences threatening the final destruction of liberties.

Thrown by this idea into a state of desperation, the united voice of the people, not only in this Province but in New York and Pennsylvania, and as far as we can learn, in all the Colonies, was, that they would never suffer the tea to be landed, but would prefer any species of hazard and danger, to a tame submission to measures which, if pursued, must reduce them to a state of abject slavery.

Administration could not have invented a method so effectual for raising the spirit of the Colonies, or promoting among them an entire union of sentiment. At the same time, people on your side the water have for several months been repeatedly informing our merchants of this manœuvre, and advising them, as they regarded their sacred rights, to withstand the landing of the teas by the most vigorous opposition.

While the minds of the people were impressed with these sentiments, the vessels arrived with the teas, consigned to Messrs. Richard Clarke & Sons, Thomas & Elisha Hutchinson, Benjamin Faneuil, and Joshua Winslow, Esqrs. Previous to this, the Town of Boston had several meetings, in order to induce the consignees to resign their trust, but to no purpose. And immediately upon the arrival of the vessels aforesaid, that every measure possible might be taken to prevent confusion and disorder, while the minds of all were in great agitation, the people in this and many of the neighboring Towns, assembled in the Old South meeting-house, (Faneuil Hall not being capacious enough to contain the people that attended,) to prevail with the consignees to send back the teas, and if possible to preserve it from that destruction, which the resentments of the people might justly lead them to expect. You will see by the enclosed papers the measures they took, and the resolves they passed, and will wonder, perhaps, that these resolves and measures were in vain. They not only treated with the consignees, but with the owners and masters of these vessels ; but all without success.

Despairing to effectuate any method of accommodation, after having tried all that could be devised to no purpose, they dissolved the meeting, which, agreeable to their constant and declared design, had protected the teas from destruction. Nigh twenty days were now passed since the arrival of one of the tea vessels, commanded by Capt. Hall, at which time, according to Act of Parliament, it was in the power of the custom house officers to take the teas into their own possession, in order to secure the duties. There were just grounds to think, that they intended to do it the minute the twenty days were expired, and that they would attempt to land them by force, and overbear any opposition

that might occur by a second effusion of blood. Under these apprehensions, the teas, on the evening of the 16th instant, were destroyed by a number of persons unknown and in disguise.

Such was the obstinacy of the consignees, their advisers and coadjutors, such their aversion to all conciliatory measures, that they are almost universally condemned, and some even of our party among us, acknowledge that the destruction of the teas must be imputed to these obstinate enemies of our liberties, who never would consent to any method proposed for its preservation, and who perhaps wished to irritate and inflame the minds of an injured, oppressed people, to measures of violence, of which afterwards they hoped to make their own advantages.

The House of Representatives, at their last session, appointed us a Committee to write to their Agent. In pursuance of this appointment, we have given you this information of the present state of our affairs, and doubt not you will make such an improvement of this intelligence, as shall be most for the interest of this Province in particular, and of the Colonies in general.

We are, with respect,

Your most humble servants,

THOMAS CUSHING.

SAMUEL ADAMS.

JOHN HANCOCK.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS,



JOHN SCOLLAY TO ARTHUR LEE.

Boston, December 23d, 1773.

SIR,

At the instance of my worthy friend, Mr. Samuel Adams, I have presumed to take upon me to communicate to you what I know concerning the doings of the Town, and of the people, at their late meetings, respecting the teas exported by the India Company, in Captains Bruce, Hall, and Coffin. This I am the more capable of doing, as I

have the honor of being one of the selectmen of this Town: I am therefore personally acquainted with some facts relating to this matter, more especially what passed between the selectmen and Mr. Jonathan Clarke, one of the consignees, at the interview they had with him and his brother, a few days before the people met on this occasion. From the first report of the India Company's obtaining an Act of Parliament to export teas to the Colonies, it threw the inhabitants of this and the other towns into great agitation; they judging that it was altogether a plan of Administration to increase and secure the revenue, which for some years past has caused such distress and unhappiness in North America.

When it was known that Messrs. Hutchinsons, Clarke, and Faneuil, were to be the Agents for the India Company, it was thought advisable to call the Town together, to know the minds of the inhabitants on this matter. They met the 4th ult., debated on the subject, and adjourned to the 6th. At both these meetings they manifested, by their votes, their detestation of the measure; not as an act of the India Company, but as a scheme of Administration. They raised a reputable committee to wait on the consignees, who, as the Town judged, treated their application with contempt. This being the case, the meeting was dissolved. On the 18th, the Town was again called together to deliberate on this matter: a very great number of the inhabitants and of the most respectable characters appeared: the Town was solicitous to gain the consent of the consignees to the reshipping the tea to London: they were the more urgent, as they knew this measure would prevent the destruction of the Company's property, which they judged would be the case if it was not sent back.

They again raised a committee to wait on the consignees; they treated this application much in the same manner as they did the other. The answer they sent the Town was looked on by them as trifling. They voted it unsatisfactory, and the meeting was dissolved, and no further application was made to them by the Town. People's minds were daily more and more agitated. A number of persons, friendly to the consignees, fearful of disagreeable consequences, endeavored to persuade them to come to a compo-

sition with the Town. Of this number I was one. We set before them the evils that must ensue, if they were obstinate: but if a composition took place, the property of the Company would be preserved, the Town would be restored to its usual tranquillity, and they themselves would recover their former good standing with their fellow-citizens. Though we labored night and day in the affair, all our efforts could not produce an agreement between them and the Town. The town's people thought they had been ill-treated by them at the late town meetings, therefore they were now on their part determined that the teas should not be landed; so the consignees were on their part obstinate, and would be noways active in sending it back. Had the consignees, on the Town's first application to them, offered to have stored the tea, subject to the inspection of a committee of gentlemen, till they could write their principals; and that until that time no duty should be paid, which no doubt the commissioners of the customs would have consented to, under these circumstances: Had they made such an offer to the Town, at either of their two meetings, I am persuaded the Town would have closed with them, and every thing would have been preserved from destruction. The above doings took place before the arrival of the tea, and before the arrival of Mr. Jonathan Clarke, one of the consignees, from London.

On Saturday the 27th ult., a few days after his arrival, he called on me to know if it would be agreeable to the selectmen for him to wait on them. I told him it would; that if he would name his time, the Board should be summoned. According to his desire, the Board met at 4 o'clock, P. M. He with his brother attended. He informed the selectmen that he esteemed himself very unhappy in incurring the displeasure of his fellow-citizens, by his being appointed an agent for the India Company for the sale of the tea that was expected. He said the appointment was not of his seeking, that he was wholly passive in the affair, (this by some is said to be not true,) therefore it was unreasonable that he and the others should suffer. We told him, that let our private opinion be what it would, by what we could collect, the people would be satisfied with nothing less than the sending the tea back. He said that was im-

possible for him to do ; that it was contrary to the acts of trade ; the tea, with the vessel, would be liable to confiscation ; that in this way they should be a means of procuring the loss of the Company's interest, and perhaps bring on ruin to themselves. We told him that, perhaps some method might be devised that would remove the difficulty ; that as it could not be landed without the utmost hazard, if he should reship it, and protest against the obstructors of his regular proceedings, and return the tea to London with such a protest, he might save the Company's property, and perhaps obtain their thanks for his care of their interest ; whereas were the consignees to take no step for the preservation of it, they would, and very justly, incur their resentment for not preserving the tea when in their power to do it. We had a long conversation with this gentleman and his brother, on the subject. On the whole, before he left us, he said, that nothing should be done as to the tea, in any clandestine manner ; that the vessel should come up to town with it ; that so soon as Capt. Hall, who was hourly expected, should arrive, and he knew the contents of his letters, he would immediately hand in proposals to the selectmen for them to communicate to the town.

The next day Capt. Hall arrived. The selectmen met at the Hall, (although Sabbath day,) at twelve o'clock, in expectation of an application from Mr. Clarke : we sent our messenger to his house, could hear nothing of him. We adjourned till five o'clock in the evening, when we again met, hoping to have an application, that we might have time to call the Town together in the way prescribed by law, before any other meeting might take place. We continued sitting till nine o'clock ; sent again to the houses of consignees, but could get no intelligence where they were. One of the selectmen, finding the storm arising, sent privately to Mr. Clarke's brother-in-law, desired him, if he had any regard for him or his connections, that he would find him, and get him and the others forthwith to apply to the selectmen, (agreeable to his promise,) that a regular town meeting might be called. He returned for answer that it was impossible for him to see them that evening ; but that early in the morning he would get them to send a billet to the selectmen with their proposals.

Very early next morning hand bills were dispersed, by unknown persons, inviting the people to meet at Faneuil Hall, on occasion of Capt. Hall's arrival with the tea. This being the case, it was in vain to attempt to call the Town together in a legal way, which would have been done, had Mr. Clarke have complied with his promise to the selectmen, which was, that immediately on the arrival of Capt. Hall, he would hand in to them his proposals as a foundation for a town meeting. This might have prevented the event that has since taken place. The people of this and the neighboring Towns, met in conformity to the dispersed hand bills, on Monday, the 29th. A very great number met, so great that the town hall could not contain them. They were obliged to adjourn to a large meeting-house, where, it is supposed, that five or six thousand of respectable inhabitants met; men of the best character and of the first fortunes.

The doings of this and the other meetings are made public, that it will be needless for me to recite them. I will only say that it is the observation of persons unprejudiced, and of character, who attended these meetings, which consisted of all sorts, *whig and tory*, that the utmost decorum was observed; that through the whole of their debates, although they were determined the tea should not be landed subject to a duty, yet it was apparent that their only view in sending it back, was not only to render the scheme of Administration abortive, but to preserve the tea from destruction. This ran through the whole of their reasoning on the subject. To accomplish this, every step that could be taken, (consistent with their intentions of its going back,) was taken, to preserve it. Sometime after the people were assembled, I received a letter directed to me, signed by all the consignees, the purport of which was that they could not comply with the expectations of the Town in sending the tea back, but that they would store it, till they could know the mind of the India Company concerning it.

The people ordered the letter to be read, but they were so irritated at the conduct of these gentlemen, that they acted no further on the letter than hearing it read. At this meeting the people required Mr. Rotch, the owner of

Capt. Hall's ship, at his peril, to return the tea on board, to London. He consented to it, but said he considered himself as under duress, and therefore, to save himself from blame, he should protest against the people. So far they were contented; hoping they should obtain the end they were in pursuit of, and at the same time preserve the Company's property; and that the tea would be on its return to London, before twenty days should expire; that being the time the officers of the customs could let it lay on board, under a report.

Some days after this meeting, it was evident that Mr. Rotch, by his conduct, had no intention of returning the tea in his ship to London. This being the apprehension of the people, it created a great uneasiness, not only in this but in the other Towns; however, they waited till the 14th instant, but three days before the expiration of the time when the officers of the customs would take possession of it for the duties, and perhaps call in the naval and military force to their aid, which, since the destruction of the tea, has been found to have been their intention; the Captains of the several ships of war being ordered on board, and preparations were, it is said, actually made for some expedition, (there being then, and are now in the harbor, one sixty-gun ship of war, two frigates, besides several smaller vessels of force,) it was much feared the country would have destroyed the teas, even under these circumstances, which would have produced dreadful effects on all sides. At this meeting there was a much greater appearance than at any time. People attended it from Towns at the distance of twenty miles.

At this they ordered Mr. Rotch, at his peril, to carry back the tea to London. He told the people, that as the custom house officers would not clear out his ship, so long as the tea was on board, so neither would the Governor give him a pass by the castle; therefore it was in vain for him to attempt it. They ordered him immediately to wait on the collector, and demand a clearance for his ship. The collector refused to do it. They then ordered him to wait on the Governor, to know if he would give his ship a pass by the castle; he refused also, by saying, that as the ship was not regularly cleared at the custom house, he

could not do it. The people then required of Mr. Rotch his answer whether he would proceed with his ship, or order Capt. Hall, the master, to proceed to London with the ship, in the situation she was in. He gave for answer that he would not.

On this the meeting was dissolved; but before the dissolution of the meeting, a great number in disguise, who, it was said, came from the country, passed by when the people were assembled, and went on board the several vessels that had the tea on board, and in a very short time, without noise or tumult, destroyed all the tea, by throwing it into the sea. The people, from their first taking up this matter until the destruction of the tea, showed no disposition to have it destroyed, if it possibly could be prevented, consistent with their intentions of preventing its being landed and paying the duty. They took every method that a people engaged in such a cause could take. They waited till the last moment, hoping that a compliance with their requisition would take place, that so not only the end they had in view might be answered, but that the India Company's property might be preserved. Let who will be the persons who were instruments of the destruction of so large a property, almost every one look on the consignees as the faulty cause. Upon the whole, I do lament the loss of the Honorable Company; I also lament the original cause of that loss, which I think is most unrighteous, and which has proved a source of unhappiness to the Americans.

Very soon, I fear, the Americans will be drove, if some kind interposition does not take place, to that desperation, which neither the severest threats, nor the mildest treatment of the British Parliament, will control. I have, in the above, given, so far as I am able, an honest detail of facts relating to a matter very interesting, and which may perhaps draw on us the resentment of Administration; yet we do console ourselves that we have acted constitutionally, and that a good Providence will so order this matter, as that it may insure in great good to these Colonies. I should not have taken upon me to write on this subject, but that the relation I stand in to the Town; and in hopes that a plain, circumstantial narration of facts, might be of service,

to a gentleman of your influence and disposition. I have therefore ventured on your candor, and have spoke the sentiments of a heart much agitated for the welfare of this and our mother country; and if my mite will serve the good old cause, I give it cheerfully. As I am no adept in letter writing, and for some other reasons, I choose to have my name concealed. In any other way, you may make what use of this letter you please.

I am, with great regard for you, Sir, and for all the friends of our happy Constitution,

Your most humble servant,

JOHN SCOLLAY.



DR. WILLIAMSON'S EXAMINATION BEFORE THE KING'S
COUNCIL IN LONDON.

BEFORE his Majesty's most Honorable Privy Council, February 19th, 1774.—Dr. Williamson, of Philadelphia, being examined concerning the public transactions at Boston, in November and December last, respecting the tea that was sent there by the East India Company, and destroyed in the harbor, said :

That on the 17th or 18th of November, 1773, he arrived in Boston from Rhode Island, with the purpose of proceeding in the first vessel for London. Being told that the inhabitants were assembled in town meeting, he went to the public hall, for the purpose of gratifying his curiosity, by observing whether it was a rude collection of the lower class of people, or an orderly assembly of respectable citizens. He had been told, that the expected tea was the occasion of the meeting, and that there had already been one or two meetings on the same subject. In a few minutes after he entered the hall, some gentlemen, who were said to be selectmen, came in with a letter from the tea consignees. The letter was read by the clerk, and imported that the consignees could not then resign. It was voted *not satisfactory*. Mr. Hancock was moderator of the

meeting. Two or three persons spoke a few minutes concerning the tea, or the contents of the letter, but he was too far off to hear them distinctly. The meeting was then dissolved. He apprehends no vote but the above was passed at this meeting, but believes the selectmen agreed to afford the tea consignees an interview, whenever the tea ship might arrive, though he does not recollect how he received this intelligence. This, they said, was intended to give the consignees an opportunity of resigning, so as to escape the public odium.

On the 29th of November, there was a meeting of the people—not a regular town meeting. He apprehends this meeting had its origin in a report that the selectmen had not prevailed, or were not likely to prevail, on the consignees, to resign. The people began to meet in the public hall, but soon adjourned to a large church, or meeting-house, at some distance. He was present while some of the votes were passed on that day. Mr. Jonathan Williams acted as moderator. He remembers, in particular, it was voted, *That the tea should be sent back, at all events, to the place from whence it came*, or words to this amount; also, *That it should pay no duty*; and *That it should return in the bottom in which it came*. It was also voted, *That the tea should not be entered*; and Mr. Rotch and Capt. Hall were enjoined, under severe penalties, not to enter it. The speakers were very numerous on the subject of the above votes, but he cannot possibly recollect who they all were, for he only learned the names of most of them while they were speaking. The discourse of some tended in a very different direction from that of others; for while some advised to moderation, and by all means to the abstaining from violence, a few talked in a style that was violent and inflammatory.

But the men who appeared to be the leaders, and to have the confidence and esteem of the people, were unanimous in determining, at the least they seemed to determine, that the tea should go back to London, and that they would prevent any measures by which it might be in danger. From observing the countenance, and attending to the discourse of this body of people, he was then fully persuaded, that the tea would not be destroyed; that it would be sent

back ; that no attempt would be made with any prospect of success to detain it. A watch of twenty-five men was appointed to take care of the ship by night, lest the tea should be taken out of her, or rather, (for this was given as the reason,) lest some enemy of the town should burn the ship, in order to lay the blame to the inhabitants. He does not remember who proposed the watch, nor who was the captain of it, but believes it was proposed that they should not be armed. He thinks there was also a meeting of the people on the 30th, at which he was informed they entered into sundry resolutions. He was also informed, for he was not present to see it, that the sheriff on that day, by order of the Governor, charged the people to disperse. He believes a watch was kept over the tea ships every night from their arrival, until that night on which the tea was destroyed.

There was another meeting of the body of the people of Boston, and the neighboring Towns, on Tuesday or Wednesday, the 14th or 15th of December, as he was informed. He heard the bells ringing, and saw people going to the meeting. By the report he then received, from sundry people who attended, he believes that the account of the proceedings, which was published in the newspaper of Edes & Gill, was just. He believes there was also an adjourned meeting of the body on the 16th or 17th of December. In the evening of that day, above an hour after dark, he was informed that a number of people were employed in destroying the tea. He immediately went, that he might obtain full satisfaction as to this fact, and from a small eminence about fifty yards from the nearest ship, he could observe that there were people on board, who, he apprehends, were disguised. He could hear them cut open the tea chests, when they had brought them upon the deck. The rioters made very little noise. On the next day the ships were said to be quite clear.

ADDENDA.

That Mr. Hancock was moderator of the said town meeting at Faneuil Hall, on the 17th or 18th of November, and as such, put the question. That the letter which was read

at the meeting, said to have been written by the tea consignees, and which was voted *not satisfactory*, was the same, according to the best of his memory, with a letter which he now saw published in a paper, called the "Massachusetts, &c. No. —." Also that Jonathan Williams, as moderator of the said meeting, on the 29th of November, put the several questions, which were voted while he was present.

HUGH WILLIAMSON.

LETTER FROM SAMUEL ADAMS TO JAMES
WARREN.

THIS Letter is printed from the original, which was read to the Society by
Hon. Charles H. Warren.

Boston, May 14, 1774.

MY DEAR SIR,

This Town has received the copy of an Act of the British Parliament, wherein it appears that we have been tried and condemned, and are to be punished, by the shutting up of the harbor and other marks of revenge, until we shall disgrace ourselves by servilely yielding up, in effect, the just and righteous claims of America. If the Parliament had a right to pass such an *edict*, does it not discover the want of every moral principle to proceed to the destruction of a community, without even the accusation of any crime committed by such community? And for any thing that appears, this is in fact the case. There is no crime alleged in the Act, as committed by the Town of Boston. Outrages have been committed within the Town, and therefore the community, as such, are to be destroyed, without duly inquiring whether it deserved any punishment at all. Has there not often been the same kind of reason why the Port of London should be shut up, to the starving of hundreds of thousands, when their own mobs have surrounded the King's palace? But such are the councils of a nation, once famed and revered for the character of humane, just and brave.

The people receive this cruel edict with abhorrence and indignation. They consider themselves as suffering the stroke ministerial—I may more precisely say, Hutchinsonian vengeance, in the common cause of America. I hope they will sustain the blow with a becoming fortitude,

and that the cursed design of intimidating and subduing the spirits of all America, will, by the joint efforts of *all*, be frustrated. It is the expectation of our enemies, and some of our friends are afraid, that this Town, *singly*, will not be able to support the cause under so severe a trial. Did not the very being of every sea-port town, and indeed of every Colony, considered as a free people, depend upon it, I would not even then entertain a thought so dishonorable of them as that they would leave us now to struggle alone.

I enclose you a copy of a vote, passed by this Town at a very full meeting yesterday, which stands adjourned till Wednesday next, to receive the report of a committee appointed to consider what is proper further to be done. The inhabitants in general abhor the thought of paying for the tea, which is one condition upon which we are to be restored to the grace and favor of Great Britain. Our Committee of Correspondence have written letters to our friends in the Southern Colonies, and they are about writing to the several towns in this Province. The merchants of Newburyport have exhibited a noble example of public spirit, in resolving that, if the other sea-port Towns in this Province alone, will come into the measure, they will not trade to the southward of South Carolina, nor to any part of Great Britain and Ireland, till the harbor of Boston is again open and free ; or till the disputes between Britain and the Colonies are settled, upon such terms as all rational men ought to contend for. This is a manly and generous resolution. I wish Plymouth, which has hitherto stood foremost, would now condescend to second Newburyport. Such a determination put into practice, would alter the views of the nation, who are in full expectation that Boston will be unthought of by the rest of the continent, and even of this Province, and left, as they are devoted, to ruin. The heroes who first trod on your shore, fed on clams and muscles, and were contented. The country which they explored, and defended with their richest blood, and which they transmitted as an inheritance to their posterity, affords us a superabundance of provision. Will it not be an eternal disgrace to this generation, if it should now be surrendered to that people who, if we might judge of them

by one of their laws, are barbarians. *Impius hæc tam culta novalia miles habebit? Barbarus has segetes?* If our brethren feel and resent the affront and injury now offered to this town; if they realize of how great importance it is to the liberties of all America that Boston should sustain this shock with dignity; if they recollect their own resolutions, to defend the public liberty *at the expense of their fortunes and lives*, they cannot fail to contribute their aid, by a temporary suspension of their trade.

I am your friend,

SAMUEL ADAMS.

James Warren, Esq.

LETTER FROM JOSEPH HAWLEY TO THOMAS
CUSHING.

THIS Letter is transcribed from Vol. 193, Massachusetts Archives, pp. 33-38.

The following is the Resolve of Congress, to which the Letter alludes, which was passed October 8, 1774 : “ *Resolved*, That this Congress approve the opposition of the inhabitants of the Massachusetts Bay, to the execution of the late Acts of Parliament ; and if the same shall be attempted to be carried into execution by force, in such case all America ought to support them in their opposition.”

R. F., JR.

Northampton, Feb. 22, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

Since I left Cambridge, I have had many thoughts on the state of this Province and continent ; and suffer me to say, Sir, that the time is in fact arrived, when we are to drop all chimerical plans, and in our contemplations thoroughly to think down, and pervade every step that is proposed for practice ; to judge of its practicability, and, as far as possible, to view all its consequences. With this conviction, I have been most seriously contemplating the commission and most important trust of our Committee of Safety, and especially that branch of it which relates to their mustering the minute men and others of the militia, when they shall judge that the late Acts of Parliament, viz. the regulation act and the murder act, are attempted to be carried into execution by force.

A most critical, most important, most arduous trust this. Here let me observe, that the soldiers, when thus mustered by the said Committee, who have this power devolved on them by the representative body of the Province, will suppose it is their duty to fight ; they therefore will only deliberate how to fight to advantage. They will not consider the question, whether or not the time is, that

they ought to fight; they will suppose that the continent have devolved the resolution of that question upon this Province; and that this Province have devolved it on the Committee of Safety; and that the Committee, by calling them, have decided it. They will judge, that if they should decline fighting, when they are called for that intent, their honor and courage will be impeached. The soldier, therefore, will probably, at all events, fall on. Thus hostilities will be commenced, which we must suppose will, thenceforward continue, and be most vigorously pushed, until the fate of America be decided; hostilities, in which we must have a vigorous and persevering assistance of the other Colonies, or we must sink under them. Suffer me then to ask, whether it will not be the height of presumption to enter on such a scene with no other assurance or security of such effectual and continued aids as will be absolutely necessary, than what is contained in a resolution of about six lines, and they consisting of terms and expressions not the most definite, or of certain and precise meaning.

The words used in the resolution, to state the case wherein hostilities are to be commenced, are, in my opinion, by far too loose, to wit, "When the acts shall be attempted to be carried into execution by force;" as well as the words made use to secure the aid of the Colonies, to wit, "All America ought to support them in such opposition:" not that they will actually support them, but a mere declaration that it would be reasonable and just that such support should be afforded. Is this a treaty offensive and defensive, of sufficient precision to make us secure of the effectual aid of the other Colonies in a war with Great Britain? Besides, by whom was this declaration or engagement, such as it is, made? Was it by Delegates specially authorized and instructed to make an engagement of this sort? Who knows whether the respective constituent bodies will avow this declaration? Moreover, it ought to be well considered, with regard to all the other Colonies, excepting Connecticut and Rhode Island, what situation they are in, to make an engagement of this sort, in case they were generally disposed to come into it. Don't we all say that this Province cannot levy, subsist and pay an

army sufficient to afford us any hope of present resistance, without a Legislature which the people will cheerfully submit to? Is not that precisely the case with all the other Colonies, the two abovementioned excepted? Have they not as much to do to assume a new government, every one of them, in order to levy, subsist and pay their respective quotas of an army, as we have? Nay, would not the success of an attempt of this sort be more precarious in every one of them than in this Province, as their people cannot be supposed so thoroughly to apprehend the necessity of it as ours may be supposed to do? Are they oppressed and affected by the new measures as we are? Will not their Governors obstruct, and labor to embarrass, every attempt of the kind as much as ours? Will they not have as many friends to government to assist them as there are here? Can it, therefore, be much short of madness and infatuation in us, to enter on a scene of this sort, in the present state of affairs? Nay, is it not obvious, therefore, that actual hostilities must be suspended, if possible, until the continent, by their representatives, shall, in the most explicit manner, in fact say, that the moment is actually arrived when the scene shall open?

No one, I presume, will say, that it will be found policy for us to enter on hostilities with only some prospect of such donations, from the other Colonies, to support the war, as have been made and are making, for the support of the poor of Boston. Does it not infinitely import us to admit these and many more considerations into our minds, before we enter upon lasting, most important hostilities? When once the blow is struck, it must be followed, and we must conquer, or all is lost forever. If we are not supported, perseveringly supported, by divers other Colonies, can we expect any thing else than in a short time to fall a prey to our enemies? May God make us consider it. Should large numbers of men come voluntarily into the province service, unless they should have been regularly raised, and proper provision made for their subsistence, and magazines of ammunition provided by the Colony, from whence they come, will they do any more than just look on us, turn about, and hasten home as fast as they came? In

order, therefore, for the necessary establishment of auxiliary troops, (as I said before,) must not the other Colonies assume new forms of government, as well as we? Is it to be supposed that all this can be done suddenly? We know, that according to their present respective constitutions, nothing of the sort above mentioned, to wit, the levying, subsisting, and paying of troops, can be done in a governmental way. When we shall have once made the hostile attack, we are, thenceforward, to look for nothing but fire and sword, until we have conquered or are ourselves vanquished. Therefore, if we, by order of our Committee of Safety, should begin the attack, and so bring on hostilities before the general and express consent of the Colonies that hostilities were altogether unavoidable, and that the time to commence them is absolutely arrived, and that we are actually ready, I conceive that there will be infinite hazard that the other governments will say, that we have unnecessarily and madly plunged into war, and therefore must get out of the scrape as we can; and we shall have no other aid from them, only from some warm people, who will resort to us in a fit of zeal, and soon return home again, as fast as they came, without affording us any real service, but will leave us in a worse state than we should have been if they had never come. I know your concern will be, that if we proceed in this deliberate way, the spirit of our people will evaporate and be lost. But let me assure you, that there is no danger of that. If I can make any judgment, all the danger is on the other hand; that our people will rashly and headily rush into hostilities before they can be upheld and supported; they will consequently fail of success; the tide will then turn; a very low ebb will succeed the high tide of flood; they will then give all up; and the good cause will be lost forever.

I beg of you, therefore, as you love your country, to use your utmost influence with our Committee of Safety, that our people be not mustered and that hostilities be not commenced, until we have the express categorical decision of the continent, that the time is absolutely come that hostilities ought to begin, and that they will support us in

continuing them. As to the courts, we must embarrass and retard them by preventing suitors, jurors, witnesses, &c., going into them, by all ways and means, that I have not time now to explain. A sharp eye must be kept on them, that we may fully know the success of the attempts to establish the Regulation so far as it respects the courts. Sir, I think it of much importance to do this. As you regard your own life, and your usefulness to your country, you should most attentively watch all the steps and proceedings of the court now sitting at Boston. If they get a grand jury, then they will probably obtain indictments of high treason; and indictments will not be procured without a view and respect to arrests and commitments, convictions, hangings, drawings and quarterings. What your chance will be I need not tell you.

I am, Sir, with the most sincere regards, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

LETTERS FROM ANDREW ELIOT TO THOMAS HOLLIS.

THE following letters from Rev. Andrew Eliot, D. D., of Boston, to Thomas Hollis, of England, are printed from the originals, contained in a volume of the Society's MSS., entitled, "Hollis Papers."

The same volume contains many letters from Jonathan Mayhew to Thomas Hollis, copious extracts from which may be found in the life of Dr. Mayhew, by Alden Bradford. The memoirs of Hollis state that, on the death of Dr. Mayhew, in 1766, Mr. Hollis was "at some loss for a confidential correspondent" in America. "For, great as his value was for his deceased friend, it was not the man or the friend that he sought to benefit by the exertions of his benevolence, but the whole people of that country; and though his bounty to the literary foundations there established might have been properly received and acknowledged by the public curators of those foundations, yet mutual communications of the state of the mother country, and the Colonies respectively, required a correspondence, in the course of which interesting intelligence might be safely and discreetly interchanged, without giving fuel to party zeal or party malevolence, on the one side or the other."—*Memoirs of Thomas Hollis*, p. 377.

With such views, Mr. Hollis addressed Dr. Eliot the following letter, dated September 6, 1776, which is here copied from the "Hollis Papers:"

PALL MALL, SEPT. 6, 1766.

Sir,—The last year I returned you my hearty thanks, by Dr. Mayhew, for the obliging present of a curious sermon, preached on an important occasion. A few books, which I had intended for that excellent man, why, seemingly, no more! with an addition to them, (and such political fry as the times have produced,) I now request place for in your study. They are sent in that kind of way always used by me toward my friends. The loose notes you will read, and destroy, *burn*, unseen of any one. The similarity of turn, as appeareth by your sermon, to my late honored friend, the regularity of your education, the fullness of your character, your age, station, power, will to render *public* service, all have concurred with me, although retiring into the country, overplyed myself, to take this measure, otherwise it might be rather singular. It is by desire of Dr. Harris, an eminent dissenting minister of Honiton, in Devonshire, that I forward to you certain parcels, which were likewise intended for Dr. Mayhew; and he presents you with his compliments.

I am, with great respect, Sir, your obliged and most obedient, humble servant,
T. H.

Rev. Andrew Eliot.

At this time, Dr. Eliot was pastor of the New North Congregational Church in Boston. He was ordained in 1743; and the result of this letter was, the commencement of a correspondence between Dr. Eliot and Mr. Hollis, which continued until the death of the latter, which occurred January 1, 1774. The memoirs of Thomas Hollis, contain the following tribute to Dr. Eliot:—"His letters bespeak

him a man of great judgment, good sense, a benevolent heart, and undissembled piety. We think him, as a writer, equal at least to Dr. Mayhew; and this opinion we ground not so much on his letters to Mr. Hollis and his successor, as on a long account of the effects of the dispute between America and Great Britain, which he sent to another friend in England, in the year sixty-eight, and which has been communicated to us by his respectable correspondent. In this account, there is a candor and moderation expressed in the utmost propriety of language, that does honor both to his abilities and his heart. The times of which he writes became much more critical after the death of Dr. Mayhew; and as they grew from bad to worse, he was put to the proof of his magnanimity, by his sufferings from a licentious soldiery, irritated by the spirited resistance of Dr. Eliot's compatriots; the fruits of which we may hope he is now enjoying more to his own comfort, not without frequent occasions of employing his valuable talents to the edification of his countrymen, in his own particular department." Page 379.

The hope expressed in this extract, was not realized. The Memoirs of Hollis were published in 1780; but Dr. Eliot died on the 13th of September, 1778. Notices of him may be found in these Collections, and especially in the 2d Series, Vol. I. p. 227. R. F. JR.

LETTERS FROM ANDREW ELIOT TO THOMAS HOLLIS.

N. E., Boston, Nov. 14, 1766.

SIR,

I received yours of September 6, a few days since, with the very kind and generous present which accompanied it, for which I beg leave to return you my sincerest thanks. You will easily believe such a token of regard, from a gentleman of so distinguished a character and so justly honored among us, gave me the highest satisfaction. It could proceed only from the benevolence of your heart. The books with which you have favored me, are excellent in their kind; some of them I have already perused with great pleasure. Dr. B——n's Confessional is one of the most valuable performances of the age, and would be as useful as it is excellent, if men in power did not suffer their own little interests to preponderate every other consideration. The imposition of subscriptions, is a yoke which I have long thought ought not to be borne. It can answer no end but to promote bigotry and hypocrisy, and has occasioned more perjury and prevarication, than perhaps any one thing in the world. I rejoice to find the cause of liberty undertaken by one so every way able to defend it. I am surprised Dr. Rutherford ventured abroad his flimsy performance, in opposition to the manly sense and just reasoning of the *Confessional*.

I am charmed with the considerations relative to the appointment of Bishops in the Colonies, added to the appeal. The Appendix is admirable. We must have it reprinted. The author's name will be concealed. I fear this excellent man has too much honor and integrity ever to adorn the bench of B——ps.

The pieces in the public prints I have read—some with pleasure and others with astonishment. In the present state of things, we must expect to find *syndics*, men of contracted minds and mean tools of power. If such men only were to be slaves, it might be less regretted. They deserve to lose their liberty, who can so tamely resign it. I should be sick of the world, if there was not here and there one of another spirit; but upon how few can we depend, if Mr. Pitt, the great patriot, who seemed formed to stem the torrent of corruption, has been gained over by the northern *Thane*. May he not yet emerge and save a sinking nation! I shall take care to have the piece signed *A Minorite*, and several others, inserted in our papers. I am surprised that we have attended so little to the settling a Popish bishop in *Canada*. I think the Church of England allows the validity of Popish, though not of Presbyterian, ordination. (If it comes from the sacred hands of a bishop, though he is the professed offspring of the whore of Babylon, the mother of harlots, it is well enough.) Our candidates for holy orders, who have been obliged to expose themselves, and to venture their *precious* lives, in crossing the Atlantic, may now avoid that danger; they need only to take a little trip to Quebec, and they may be ordained to their satisfaction, and to the satisfaction of those who employ them.

I entirely agree with you, that an interest in the public prints is of great importance. The spirit of liberty would soon be lost, and the people would grow quite lethargic, if there were not some on the watch, to awaken and rouse them. We, in America, are perhaps more obliged to our friends in Great Britain, who raised a spirit among the people, than to the P——t who repealed the act which was calculated (I do not say designed) to enslave the Colonies.

The letter from Paris, and the judicious queries relative to the jesuits, are quite alarming. How can our church dignitaries wink at such things? It would cer-

tainly be to better purpose, to employ *good* missionaries, to preserve their own people from popery, than to send *such as they do*, to propagate the Church of England in America.

Sacerdos Rusticus, I have had no opinion of since he preached the sermon before the incorporated Society, when he asserted, that the Episcopalians in New-England (without making the least exception) were taxed to support Independent ministers, which was not true. In another edition of his sermon, if I remember right, he says this law has been since repealed; whereas he ought candidly to have said, there was no such law in being, when he said there was. His opposition to the Act that incorporated a Society among ourselves, for Propagating the Gospel, &c., was mean and contemptible. His attempt to disguise plain facts, in his answer to Dr. Mayhew, was scarcely consistent with common honesty. The Doctor was extremely cautious in his account of facts, and I am persuaded they may be all depended upon.

I cannot mention the name of my excellent friend, without lamenting the loss which the cause of learning, of liberty, and of religion, has sustained in his death. He was a great and good man. His seizure was of the paralytic kind. I saw him often in his sickness, but he never appeared to have the clear exercise of reason. The distemper attacked him with such violence, that I could not wish for his life, of which some entertained hopes. He would have been only the *shadow* of Dr. Mayhew. He left an amiable widow and two desirable children; one is since deceased.

I have taken the liberty to enclose a letter of thanks to Dr. Harris, for his obliging present, which I must ask the favor of you to convey to him, in such way as you think proper.

I send the whole by Mr. Dolbear, a modest young gentleman, educated at Harvard College, but who chose to enter into business, rather than to follow his studies. He will receive your commands with pleasure.

I am, Sir, with the greatest gratitude and respect, your obliged and most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

Thomas Hollis, Esq.

Boston, N. E., Jan. 7, 1767.

SIR,

I beg leave to inform you that I have received the papers you was so good as to send me ; one under cover to Mr. Quincy, the other by Capt. Bruce. I have engaged our printers to publish several of the pieces I have received from you. ' Our political disputes have hitherto prevented them. Our people are yet too fond of Mr. Pitt, (we have not learned to call him Earl Chatham,) to bear any thing against him, fallen as he is ! The talk of a statue, indeed, seems to be at an end.

It will give you pleasure to know that the generous addition you have made to your benefactions to the College, is safely arrived in Capt. Bruce. The books are not yet sent to Cambridge, which is the reason you hear nothing from the President. As a friend to Harvard College, I sincerely thank you for your liberality to that society. The books you have sent are vastly curious and valuable, and the binding elegant. I hope their external appearance will invite our young gentlemen to peruse them, which I am persuaded was your principal design in sending them.

I have just seen Dr. Warburton's society sermon. I thought what Dr. Mayhew has written, would have cured both the society and their missionaries of that disposition they have always had, to misrepresent facts. But it seems, according to Dr. Warburton, we now need missionaries to convert us, not from heathenism, but infidelity. But if infidelity prevails, which the Doctor without any warrant says it does, the present missionaries are not like to put a stop to it. I am personally acquainted with the dissenting ministers in every place but one, where the society have missionaries in this Province, and it is no reflection on the missionaries to say, the dissenting teachers, as they affect to call our ministers, are much more able to defend Christianity, or any other cause.

Nec tali auxilis, nec defens oribus istis
Tempus eget.

But something must be said to amuse their hearers, and get their money, and it seems to me they little regard

whether it be true or false. Such a conduct in the ministers of religion, has a greater tendency to promote infidelity, than all the books which are said to be dispersed among us.

I again return you my thanks for your undeserved notice of me, and am, your obliged, humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

Mr. Hollis.



Boston, N. E., May 13, 1767.

SIR,

April 20, by Capt. Davis, I received your obliging letter, with the kind present that accompanied it, for which you have my sincerest thanks. There was also a parcel from Dr. Harris, to whom I have made my acknowledgments, in a letter I have taken the liberty to enclose to you. The book for the College at New York, I enclosed to President Cooper, and sent by a safe hand. I was particularly pleased with ‘*The Excellencie of a Free State.*’ I wonder so valuable a performance has been so long hid. The style and manner are far beyond the writers of that day, and the treatise justly gives the author a place among the most noble writers on government. I could have wished, however, that when the editor mentioned him as inferior *only* to *Milton*, he had also inserted *Sydney*, “that,” as you justly style him, “Martyr to Civil Liberty.” I am perhaps prejudiced in favor of that great man, because he was the first who taught me to form any just sentiments on government. The Jesuit’s Oration is a fine performance,—the translation is a good one, but I do not think it always comes up to the force and beauty of the original. I could hardly forbear publishing your judicious observations on the stage; but thought myself bound to comply with the letter of your directions. I am no enemy to innocent amusements, but I have long thought our modern theatre, “the *bane of virtue.*” Some years ago theatrical entertainments were introduced among us. I had such an opinion of their pernicious tendency, especially in a young country, that I exerted myself to procure an Act to prohibit them, and by the help of

friends, succeeded. This does not wholly prevent them ; but so many are engaged to suppress them, that they will not soon be publicly tolerated. It gave me high pleasure to find my sentiments coincided with yours.

You greatly honor me by proposing me as a correspondent to Archdeacon Blackburne. I immediately felt the loss of Dr. Mayhew, and imaged to myself the great advantage the Colonies might have reaped, by a correspondence between those great and good men. I find myself unequal to it, but shall willingly receive his commands, as well as yours, and contribute what little I can to the glorious cause in which you are both engaged. I hope you will favor me with the Archdeacon's character, which you mention in your letter. I should be glad to know every thing of that excellent man ; but no one can read his writings and not be satisfied that he is one of the greatest and best men in England. You, Sir, and the Archdeacon, are greatly capable of serving the American Colonies ; suffer me to recommend them to your care and patronage. I am much mistaken if you will not find, that while you defend them, you are promoting the real interest of Great Britain. The people here have no notion of aiming at independence. They highly value their connection with their mother country. They glory in the name of *Englishmen*, and only desire to enjoy the *liberties of Englishmen*. This, I know, will recommend them to your esteem—it will to the esteem of every good man. We have imprudent men among us, but the community ought not to suffer for the faults of a few.

I daily mourn over Mr. *Pitt*, the only man capable of setting things right between Great Britain and her Colonies—because he had the confidence of both. I tremble for the nation which has so few honest patriots. These few, I fear, will not be able to stem the torrent of ambition, luxury and venality. In this Province there will be continual altercations between *our chief* and the assembly. He has lost the confidence of the people, if he ever had it. But at present the people are so agreed, and so many are upon the watch, that no one will care to attempt any encroachments.

I find in your letter, and in one of the pamphlets you

was so good as to send me, that the liberty of the press hath been attacked. If this refers to any late attempts, we have not had any accounts in the public prints, and cannot tell what it intends. Nothing is of greater importance than to secure the entire freedom of publishing, without fear, any censures upon public measures. The liberty of the press is the *palladium* of English liberty. If this is gone, all is gone. I hope there is so much virtue and spirit in the nation, as to risk everything, rather than to suffer it to be taken from them. The *after* imprudence of poor *Wilkes*, lost a fine opportunity to fix it on so firm a basis as to prevent every future attempt.

I hope your intended retreat will not be at a distance to prevent your affording your assistance in the cause of public liberty. If it will, I wish it may be protracted not only months, but years! many years! Your hint about correspondents, visitants and sermons, I shall endeavor to improve, with care and prudence, and believe, after some little time, you will have very little trouble in this way. One honest man of my acquaintance I was afraid of. He knew not of any correspondence between us when he went from hence; and when I wrote to him, I took particular care not to mention your name, and to send my letters to you by another, who I thought had more discretion.

April 25.—By Capt. Dashwood, I received under cover from you, a letter from the excellent Dr. Blackburne, and another to Mrs. Mayhew, which I immediately delivered into her hands. The Doctor's letter is full of goodness, and gives me a nearer view of the virtue and abilities of that great man. I have taken the liberty to send him an answer, which I enclose to you. I have written, I fear, with too much freedom. My temper is frank and open; I could wish both you and the Doctor knew the inward sentiments of my heart. I should be quite willing *you* should open the letter, and if you approve of it, put it under another cover, and direct it to him. The point that gives me concern is this. I have spoken very freely of Bishops. This may look rude to one of the Episcopal persuasion, and who, if time should ever be that merit will recommend to preferment, will himself be of that order. I beg, Sir, you will excuse me to him, if I have proceeded further than was proper.

April 28.—I received by the same conveyance, a box of prints and a parcel of valuable pamphlets. Such of the prints as you ordered for the College, I delivered to the President. Be pleased to accept my acknowledgments for those with which you have favored me; and for the Tracts,—they are all curious, and few of them would have reached us but for your benevolence. Our friends on your side the water, do not send even those pamphlets which directly attack our privileges, and in which we are deeply interested. Such is the inattention of mankind! I am surprised at the impudence with which the papists plead for toleration. He must have lost all principles of self-preservation, who will take a serpent into his bosom, especially when he has felt his sting, and but just escaped with his life. I cannot say I am sorry Dr. Rutherford has exercised his pen. This is a controversy I desire to see carried through. Truth and liberty will be promoted. It cannot be in better hands than A. D. B——n's—whether he will think the Professor's *little* pieces of importance enough to deserve his notice, I do not know.

I am sorry you have given such strict injunctions with respect to the MS. Notes. Some, at least, I should gladly have preserved, but every direction of your's shall be punctually complied with, by

My dear Sir, your very obliged friend, and most obedient servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



* * * * *

¹ New England produces very little worthy attention. Mr. Hutchinson's History contains a valuable collection of facts. The respectable author had but little time to adorn it. The whole was almost lost to the public, when the Lieutenant Governor's house was destroyed.

The good people of Boston are very careful to distinguish between the 14th and the 26th of August. The attack on Secretary Oliver, our S—p M—r—, it is sup-

¹ The commencement of this letter is missing.

posed was under the direction of some persons of character. It is certain, people in general were not displeased. The 26th of August was under a very different direction. It was a scene of riot, drunkenness, profaneness and robbery. As Mr. Hutchinson's house is quite near to A. E., he was an eye-witness of the whole transaction.

There is a report, mentioned in a letter of August 22, (which is inserted in the Appendix to the Conduct of the late Administration,) supposed to be written by G——r B——d, and to refer to Dr. Mayhew, which is not true. "Another Congregational minister, well known by his late polemical writings, has as I have been told by several persons [who heard him], justified this proceeding, in his sermon, and prayed for its success." The Doctor preached a sermon on liberty, but said not one word of the attack on the Secretary. The next day was the 26th of August. Some malevolent persons charged the riot of that evening upon the Doctor, though the plan was laid before, and it is questioned whether one of the rioters had ever heard of the Doctor's sermon. The Doctor's tender spirit was much moved with such a report. He preached the next Sunday a sermon against abusing liberty to licentiousness. Some now charged him with contradiction. He thought himself much injured, as he undoubtedly was. "Of the 14th of August, I choose to say nothing," said he to A. E., not long before his much to be lamented departure, "the proceedings of the 26th I abhor, from my very soul." His sermon on the Stamp Act, was by far the best that was published. The authors of some of the others would not like to hear this.

'Tis wished the Parliament may not do something that may produce fresh disturbances.¹ They take too much notice of the sallies of some warm party-men. The people in general are quiet. If the Parliament did not take care to keep them awake, the danger is that they would soon sink into security, and suffer their privileges to be taken from them, without opposition. Good often comes out of evil!

Boston, August 27, 1767.

¹ The business of *White rose* is, to inflame *every where!* of that A. E. thinks not.—*Note by Hollis.*

Boston, Nov. 13, 1767.

SIR,

Accept my acknowledgments for your kind present, by Capt. Scott, which I received October 27, together with your obliging letter, dated May 11, 1767. I rejoice that the excellent Archdeacon has taken in hand those triflers who have written against *The Confessional*. Such feeble attempts can serve only to raise the reputation of that incomparable book. It would be easy for a much inferior writer to show the futility of their remarks. But no one seems to have so thorough an acquaintance with the subject as the Doctor hath. He adds some new light every time he takes up his pen. The fugitive pieces that worthy man writes in the papers, are admirably calculated to promote the cause of truth and liberty. Venerable Mr. *Fleming*, is an excellent second. I am particularly obliged to you for that gentleman's *Root of Protestant Errors Examined*. I had before observed, with surprise, that passage in *Mosheim*, upon which he animadvert in such a masterly manner. The Note of the translator displeased me still more. I had always considered Mr. *Macclaine* as out of the pale of the Church of England. Sure I have been mistaken! No Protestant, that was not enlisted under the hierarchy, could write as he does, of "a noble edifice, a solemn music, a well-ordered set of external gestures," that "they elevate the mind, give it a composed and solemn frame, and thus contribute to the fervor of its devotion." Such empty pageantry can produce only a mechanical kind of devotion, entirely opposite to the rational, manly religion which Jesus Christ inculcates on his followers. I heartily pray those great and good men, Dr. B——n and Mr. F——g, may live to be a scourge to bigots of all denominations.

You are quite right in supposing the people of N. A. would lose their fondness for a late Great Commoner. His patriotism is no longer mentioned. His name is sunk into oblivion. It *was* almost in the power of that unhappy man to have saved the nation; and so meanly to desert it at such a time, will make him the object of the execrations of an injured people, to the latest posterity. I should be

glad to know the author of that spirited *Elegy* on Mr. *Pitt*, which you was so good as to send me some time since. It is certainly much superior to the common poetical productions of the present day. Mr. *Wilkes* has been mentioned among us as the author. I pity that unfortunate, though I fear imprudent man.

I was greatly surprised that so many of your letters to the President had been unanswered. The Corporation have always been careful to vote their thanks for every single book sent by you, as well as for your many greater benefactions to the College. Immediately on the receipt of yours, I waited on the President at Cambridge. He compared your dates with the College records. He found that all your favors had come safe, and assured me that he had written answers to all your letters. There must have been some unhappy accident. Two letters, I am pretty certain, he hath sent since the time you mention. 'Tis very possible he may have omitted to send answers to some of your letters. That good gentleman is near eighty. His memory fails more than any of his powers of body or of mind. He is really an honest, worthy, *catholic* man. When he was chosen President, which is now more than thirty years, there was a struggle between bigotry and catholicism—his election was a victory gained by the latter. He has engaged to send you copies of all his letters which you have not received.

I am obliged to you for your anecdote concerning Dr. *Warburton*. I remember to have seen the book you mention in the college library, viz., *A Philosophical Enquiry*, &c. But as I never was charmed with his writings, I had no inclination to read it. My curiosity is now excited. I wonder among his numerous opponents, no one has attacked him on this head.

I have been this week at the College, to assist in the disposing your last generous donation. The books you send are all admirably chosen, and must have cost you much pains to collect. They make a fine appearance, and I am persuaded will be the most useful part of the library.

In one of the boxes we met with a beautiful edition of the Greek Testament, and some other valuable books, sent

by Mr. *Bowyer*, a benefactor for whom we are indebted to you. There was a polite and elegant Latin inscription on the blank leaf of the New Testament. The good opinion of a gentleman of his learning and abilities, cannot but afford the sincerest pleasure to the friends of that seminary. It will, I hope, be a stimulus to both instructors and pupils, to merit the distinction he so obligingly gives us. The indisposition or absence of some of the members of the Corporation, is the reason that thanks are not sent to you and him by this conveyance. If you think it best, you will let that good gentleman know that his kind donation has been received, and that we have the most grateful sentiments of his candor and generosity. Please to present my particular acknowledgments to him. He may expect very soon to hear from the President, and to receive the thanks of the College in a more proper way.

While at Cambridge, I received a parcel from you, under the protection of the reverend President; for this additional instance of your kind regard I heartily thank you. I have had time only to peruse the Society's sermon, and a most extraordinary one it is! I do not wonder they endeavor to conceal these annual productions. They are such miserable performances in themselves, so full of falsehood, scurrility and pious fraud, that they are not fit to see the light. I am glad, however, that our missionaries have sent so few accounts, or that the Society are so wise as not to publish them. I particularly observed the passage you marked, relative to a *Bishop of Canada*. These gentlemen seem to have lost all modesty. They first, contrary to all law, policy and religion, send a bishop to encourage the inhabitants of this newly conquered country in their fatal superstitions; at least, they do nothing to prevent it; and then argue from thence, that the hierarchy must be established in the other Colonies. Was not this the main thing they had in view in sending this popish bishop? How many consequences is this event to draw after it! Lord *Taaffe* argues, that because they have a bishop in Canada, the Papists ought to be tolerated in Ireland. Bishop *Ewer*, from the same indulgence, argues that a Church of England bishop ought to be sent to the other Colonies. Others, perhaps, as justly think it had been much the best if

the first of these events had not taken place ; but that the making one wrong step, is no reason for taking another. I hope there has been no agreement between the bishops and the Papists—but if I hear of a bishop sent to *America*, I shall fear there is a concatenation of causes and effects, and shall expect soon to hear that popery is *tolerated* in *Ireland*, then in *England*. I hope in God it will never be *established* ! But may not some future *archbishop* (we must not suspect any such thing of the *present* ! !) again bring on the scheme of uniting the two Churches, the popish and the protestant, and become *papa alterius orbis* ! How futile the pretence of the hardship put upon the missionaries, that they are obliged to cross the Atlantic ! They have a fine opportunity of seeing Great Britain. Their charges are borne by their parishioners. It is, on the whole, an agreeable amusement. If this was all the objection I had to conforming, you would see me in England before many weeks. This is all a mere pretence. They who plead so strongly for an American bishop, have other ends in view ; to make a more pompous show, by which they hope to increase their faction ; to add to the number of Lord Bishops ; to extend their episcopal influence ; to subject the American dissenters to their yoke ; to tyrannize over those who yet stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made them free ; and—as Dr. Blackburne judiciously observes in the letter I had the honor of receiving from him—to prevent any reformation at home. God prevent the execution of their pernicious designs !

I see by the title page of one of your last pamphlets, that the incomparable Dr. B——n is again attacked. Be it by *Leviathan* himself, or by *any*, by *all* his dependents, I have no fear for the event. The Doctor will shake them off with as much ease as St. Paul did the viper, without receiving the least harm. His cause is good, and he is quite able to maintain it. I wrote to you and to the Doctor by Capt. Marshall ; both which I enclosed in a parcel directed to Israel Mauduit, Esq., and which I hope you have received. By the same Captain Marshall, who is returned to America, under a cover superscribed by your well-known kind hand, I have a receipt for a box directed to me. Capt. Marshall unfortunately had the small-pox

on board, and hath been obliged to keep below some time. His vessel is just come up. The box, I doubt not, will be speedily delivered. You may expect very soon to hear again from,

Dear Sir, your obliged friend and very humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

It ought to have been mentioned above, that four boxes arrived in Capt. Scott. Mr. Hubbard was informed of the notice you took of his letter of advice.

To T. Hollis, Esq.



Boston, December 10, 1767.

DEAR SIR,

In my last, of November 13, I acquainted you that Capt. Marshall was arrived. November 17, I received the box, for which I had his receipt.

Your letter to Mrs. Mayhew, I delivered the same day in which I received it; and forwarded that to the President, to whom also I conveyed the book which came to me for the College, in Capt. Scott, and the eight books I found directed to Harvard College, among those with which you have been pleased to enrich me. You have laid me, Sir, under greater obligations than ever, by this generous present of some of the most valuable books in the English language. You will allow me to accept the Sermons from the great *Leviathan's* down to poor Mr. Parsons's—a worthy piece, truly! to be dedicated to a monarch of Great Britain! What a specimen this of the taste of the age!

Harrington, Sydney, Locke, almost any man may study his whole life to advantage. I am particularly obliged to you for *Milton's* prose works. They who consider that very great man only as a poet of the first rank, know less than half his character. He was every thing. I have often read detached pieces of his, and shall never be weary of his *Defensio Populi Anglicani*, &c. I have been told, that Salmasius fell into a languishment upon reading that book; he must have been without sensibility, if he long survived

it. I blush to own that I have never gone through the whole of these prose works. I have lost a great deal. Perhaps my pleasure is the greater now. *Milton* wrote Latin so well, that it seems a pity he should be read in any other language. But his sentiments are so just, and his attachment to liberty so firm, that he ought to be open to every Englishman.

I thank you, Sir, for the character you have so obligingly given me of the excellent Dr. Blackburne. His writings prove it a just one. Perhaps the condescending goodness with which that great man has treated me, may have rendered me a little partial; but I had before conceived the highest opinion of his abilities and integrity. Your account, you will easily believe, hath not lessened it. I am sorry to find he is so far advanced in life, because the world will be too soon deprived of one who can ill be spared out of it. I hope in God he will live to see some happy effect of his excellent labors. I received the Doctor's letter through your hands; it is, like himself, replete with good sense, and breathes the same excellent spirit there is in every thing he writes.

I have read Dr. *Rotheram's* artful performance. He might have help from *Sacerdos Rusticus*, but the cause they are engaged in, needs still greater abilities, or it will sink. Dr. Dawson's answer is a proper rebuke of such high-church rant. I shall be glad to find the author (*Rotheram*) still further chastised by the other excellent men you mention. If I may judge, this piece can impose on those only who are willing to be deceived; there is some sophistry, but little solid reasoning. He or they, who wrote it, seem in a panic, lest they should lose their dear establishment. I wish there was more reason for those fears. I am persuaded Christianity would be in no danger, though the whole body of canons, and articles, and subscriptions of every kind were wholly abolished, and the hierarchy itself leveled to the ground.

It grieves me that you find yourself so pressed. But, dear Sir, is there no medium? I fear the absolute retreat of a gentleman so well employed as you have always been, might have an effect very different from what you, and all your friends, would wish. I am mistaken if you could be

content with an inactive life. God forbid, that your life should be cut short, like excellent Dr. Mayhew's!—but I am sure you would prefer his fate, to a useless, insipid old age. [OTIUM CUM DIGNITATE, Doctor?¹]

I am sorry you are still troubled with impertinents. I have taken every method which I thought would be agreeable to you, to procure you rest, and hoped I had effected the end. No *one* on this side the water will have the courage [imp-d—ce] to speak disrespectfully of Mr. Hollis. I shall be more free in letting your mind be known. I wrote with the utmost freedom to the excellent A. D. B., and find by his answer it was not displeasing to him. That is certainly a singularly good man!

If I understand your hint about “the friends of the people of N. E.,” you are entirely right. It is a matter which hath given great pain to me, and many others. But what can be done? The managers of our public affairs, like those on your side the Atlantic, are governed by private views and the spirit of a party. Few have any regard to the good of the public. Men are patriots till they get in place, and then are !!!—anything. The corruptions of such men have, however, their use—they watch the conduct of men in power, and by their opposition, keep off many evils which could not be prevented without them. One Ag—t we had some years ago, who, I believe, was the only one we have chosen, who had capacity and inclination to serve us; a gentleman of learning, leisure and independence, and who perfectly understood American affairs. He was dismissed just when we most needed one of such a character. I wish I had any prospect of better times! I carefully observe your direction about loose notes, &c., as I do every command of yours. I should gladly preserve some, but with whatever reluctance, I burn them at the time you appoint. HARPOCRATES himself was never more silent than I am, about every thing you write, except where the nature of the thing directs that it must be communicated.

I have observed, with pleasure, the care taken by Parliament, one branch at least, to have a list taken of the papists. I wish success to every attempt to curb the inso-

¹ A remark by Hollis.

lence of those enemies of truth, of liberty, of mankind. Every attempt to alarm the nation is laudable. We are not to be weary in well-doing. But what can be expected, while the ministry is so unfixed. The bishops, who should lead in this important cause, rather clog and hurt it; and an invisible *favorite* governs all; who, it seems, is most perversely bent to oppose every salutary measure. Is there no way to break the charm? I wait, with impatience, to hear what is like to be the event of a new Parliament. But how strange is it, that a sensible people should sell themselves and their country; that they should suffer themselves to be purchased by those, who they are sure mean to carry them to market. It seems too easy for a minister to gain a majority to favor any measures he is pleased to propose. I fear this one thing will be the ruin of the English nation. What cannot a K—g, a M—n—st—r do, that has a Parliament devoted to him, and a standing army to — I dare not write what I think. I wish the time predicted by the almost inspired Montesquieu, may be *very* distant.

I have no personal connection with *Isrl Mdt*, and know very little of his character. Our patriots were extremely desirous of choosing him Ag—t, when his brother resigned. One great plea was, that he was a Dissenter of vast interest. He hath been kind in procuring [purchasing] books for the College. My *only* correspondence with him has been to convey catalogues to him, and to receive the books when sent. I was just sending a new catalogue to Mr. Mdt, when I wrote to you, and thought it would be a safe conveyance. I am obliged to you for your hint. I should always choose to convey what I write in that way that would be most agreeable.

Mr. Wheelock is a gentleman who discovered a warm, enthusiastic spirit, in the time of our late religious commotions. The ministers of Boston, and the Commissioners for Indian Affairs, appointed by a corporation in London, (among whom was Dr. Mayhew, and of which Board I have also the honor to be a member,) at first encouraged this school which Mr. Wheelock set up; not because we had any great opinion of him, but because we were willing to try every method to serve the poor Indians. We soon found that he had great, and as we feared, romantic

designs ; and besides, he was, as we thought, very unreasonable in his charges. We therefore withdrew ourselves. Mr. Wheelock went on to bring Indian lads from their own country, which is some hundred miles distant from the place where he resides. He collected large sums in Great Britain, under the influence of Mr. Whitefield, who is a great promoter of the scheme. He, Mr. Wheelock, or some of his missionaries, went through New England and procured considerable help, though I believe but little in Connecticut, which is his own Province. This money he took into his own hands, and expended as he pleased, without being accountable to any. This was thought too great a trust to be in one man's hands. No one charged Mr. Wheelock with applying the money to any other purpose than that for which it was collected ; but it was apprehended that others should be joined with him in the direction of the school, and that he ought to be accountable somewhere. This has generally been the case, when money has been given to public uses ; and we had not such an opinion of his judgment and prudence, as to think he ought to be an exception. However, although the ministers of this Town had scarce any of them any raised expectations from Mr. Wheelock's school, yet they had not light to oppose it—and the Commissioners gave fifteen pounds sterling per annum, till they were expressly forbid by their constituents in London.

Mr. Occum, who is now in England, was born at Mohegan, an Indian Settlement in Connecticut, surrounded with English Towns. He has spent most of his life there, or near it. He understands no Indian language but that of the place where he was born, where they also converse in English, and where the Commissioners had lecturers and schools long before he came on the stage. He was, as I am told, educated by Mr. Wheelock, with a view to the ministry, but years before there was any particular school for the education of Indians—and I know of no difference between him and any English lad that might have been taken from our own settlements, except that he is of a darker complexion. He was employed for many years to preach, and keep a school, in some Indian settlements in Connecticut and on Long Island, till he expressed a

willingness to go among the Six Nations; he tarried there but a few weeks, and I have not heard that he ever returned. When he was going to England, neither he, nor any for him, applied to the ministers of Boston to recommend the design upon which he was going. I suppose they concluded they should fail of success, if they did apply. We are ignorant of the plan. we have no great opinion of the projectors, nor of the methods that are taken to procure money—for what purpose is Mr. Occum sent to England, &c.? It is true he is an Indian, but there is nothing extraordinary in his being able to preach in the English tongue; he learned it in his childhood. Could not an Englishman have told the errand, as well without as with him? He is no Mohawk; he knows nothing of their language; he is no better qualified to be a missionary than any English person would be; nor do I believe he has fortitude enough to tarry long among the wild savages. When he preached in the Massachusetts, the people generally looked upon him as a Mohawk; as one just come out of heathenism; as the produce of Mr. Wheelock's *Indian* school; neither of which is the truth of the case. I hope such stories are not propagated in Great Britain. I detest frauds of every kind, especially in religion. I shall be glad if any good comes of the vast collections that have been made. But I fear this projection will turn out like Mr. Whitefield's orphan-house. I am glad the money collected in Great Britain is to be kept there. Dr. Harris writes me, that Mr. Whitaker, and Occum, cast reflections on the ministers of Boston for not recommending them. I shall write a vindication of ourselves to him. If we are to blame, it is that we did not set matters in a just light before. The Commissioners did indeed write to their constituents a plain narrative of facts relative to Mr. Occum. I wish it had been printed. I forgot to mention that no one minister of Boston invited *Occum* to preach in his pulpit, except Mr. Moorhead, an Irish Presbyterian.

When I received Dr. Ewer's sermon from you, I intended to have published some remarks upon it in the public prints, as you advised. But my worthy friend Dr. Chauncy, to whom I lent the sermon, expressing an inclination to

write an answer at large—I gave my copy to him. This was the only one which was to be come at in this town, or any where else, except at College, so that we are entirely obliged to you for the knowledge of the aspersions that are cast upon us, and for the opportunity of vindicating ourselves from them. The Doctor is now publishing some remarks, which from what he has communicated to me, appear to be written with freedom and manly sense. If these remarks are out in season, I shall send some copies by this conveyance. After I knew the Doctor's design, I gave over the thought of publishing in the papers, lest he should think it interfered with him.

I was so taken up with the vastly superior authors you had favored me with, that I did not for some time look into the A-b-p's sermons. I had seen his Society sermon formerly, and indeed that whole volume. His Grace, after the College was burned, sent *one* volume of his sermons to the Library. When I had perused his sermon, I immediately wrote some remarks, which I designed for the press, but upon communicating this sermon to Dr. Chauncy, he said he would insert some marginal notes relative to it. I thought he would do the business more effectually than I should, and besides, was fearful he would not take it well if I interposed just when he was publishing on the subject. I send you a copy of what I designed to put into the prints, which you are at liberty to make what use of you please. I also lent Dr. Warburton's sermon to Dr. Chauncy.

The people in this Town are not pleased with the late regulations of Parliament—the new burthens laid upon them. They have voted that they will suppress all mobs and riots, but they have ordered a subscription paper to be carried through the Town and to be sent to all the Towns in the Province, in which the subscribers engage not to use a variety of enumerated articles, which we used to import from Great Britain. Some articles are included which are quite necessary, at least which custom hath made so. It may have some effect, and cause us to retrench some extravagances. Some have great expectations that these measures will alarm the manufacturers in England, and that we shall have relief that way, as we had in the Stamp Act. Few of the trading part have subscribed. Some are

of opinion, that if, instead of this bluster, we had exerted ourselves to promote those manufactures which we are capable of introducing, it had been better. The plan might then have been durable, whereas now it cannot last very long, and it is feared that the people of England will look upon it as an empty threat, and despise it. Whereas, by engaging vigorously in manufactures, Great Britain would soon feel the importance of the Colonies, and find a very sensible lessening of their exports.

The present burthens may possibly be borne without any great opposition ; I believe they will ; but it is easy to see that the people are sullen, and think themselves ill-treated. They cannot be persuaded that the Parliament hath a right to impose taxes upon them. They imagine that the constituting Provincial Assemblies, with power of taxation, in the very nature of the thing, supposes that they are not to be taxed by others. The distance of the Parliament, they think, renders it incapable of judging what the Colonies are able to pay, and what taxes are proper and would not be oppressive. Besides, the members of the House of Commons, who originate taxes, cannot have a fellow-feeling with their brethren in the Colonies, as they have with those who are near them, whose difficulties they see and whose complaints they hear. Every burthen laid on the Colonies would tend to ease those upon whom the members of the House of Commons depend ; at least they would think so. The Colonists are also of opinion that they do already pay their full proportion to the taxes of the nation, by the consumption of her manufactures ; in this way they maintain great part of Britain, and enable the inhabitants to pay taxes, excises, duties, &c. All our money now goes to the parent country ; they cannot have it both ways. If they do not tax us, we shall lay out all our superfluous cash, and should do it if there was ten times as much, in the manufactures of Britain. The present turn of the people is to cultivate their lands, and not to go into manufactures—and by these means they may be said to maintain a number of industrious people in England, &c., who would otherwise find it hard to subsist. If Great Britain takes away our money in taxes, we *must* go into manufactures, and instead of contributing to the support of honest, industrious labor-

ers, which we are willing to do, we shall be obliged to maintain a parcel of pitiful sycophants, court parasites, and hungry dependents, in luxury and extravagance; and who will probably be sent over to watch and oppress those who support them.

I hope the scheme of giving salaries to our Governors and Judges will not take place, or that they will not be so large as hath been proposed. The Judges ought to be independent; but I wish some other way may be found out to make them so. In a little time it is likely the people will see the importance of it, and will do it of themselves. But if large salaries are given, we shall have needy, *poor* lawyers from England, *Scotland*, or some tools of power of our own, placed on the bench. Our Governors will be men who, having answered the ends of some Minister, will be sent here for a reward of their despicable services; these being hackneyed in the paths of deceit and avarice, will be fit tools to enslave and oppress an honest people; or else we shall have some *noble* scoundrel, who has spent his fortune in every kind of luxury and debauchery.

Unreasonable impositions tend to alienate the hearts of the Colonists. We are not ripe for a disunion; but our growth is so great, that in a few years Great B——n will not be able to compel our submission. Whereas, if they treat us as brethren and friends, it will be the interest, and the inclination of the Colonists, to be united with their parent country, even though they were ten times as big as they are.

The Colonies, if disunited from Great Britain, must undergo great convulsions before they would be settled on a firm basis. Colony would be against Colony, and there would be in every one furious internal contests for power. We had a specimen of the former the last year, when the people on the borders of New York and the Massachusetts, (which Provinces have no great affection for each other,) contended even to blood about boundaries. I hope this dispute will be amicably settled. The latter we have seen something of in Rhode Island, where they elect their own Governor. They are divided into furious parties; they bribe, they quarrel, they hardly keep from blows. The parties are so nearly equal, that they change Governors and

Magistrates almost every year. If things are so bad in that little government, what would they be in greater. I hope not to live to see the American British Colonies disconnected from Great Britain. But whatever changes there may be, I shall always remain, with the sincerest gratitude and respect,

Dear Sir, your very obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

In my last I mentioned four boxes of books that came in Capt. Scott,—I perceive since, that two came in Capt. Calef.

Dr. Chauncy's Answer to the Bishop is out. I believe, when you have read it, you will not think it necessary to publish the hasty remarks I have sent, upon the Archbishop's sermon. However, they are in your hands; you may do with them what you think best. I designed them for the public prints, and therefore aimed at conciseness. It would not have been taken well, if I had published them here, just at this time. If there is a good opportunity, it may be done hereafter.

The clergyman who had the diploma from Oxford, was Mr. Fayerweather, missionary at Narragansett, in Rhode Island government—almost the only place in New England where I can excuse the Society's sending a missionary—and he is as poor a one as they could well send.



Boston, N. E., Jan. 5, 1768.

DEAR SIR,

I have written so often of late, that I fear I shall become quite troublesome. The affair of a Colony Bishop, seems to be coming very soon to a crisis. I send you an artful pamphlet, which I have just received from New York. It has gone through the hands, it is supposed, of all the missionaries, so that you have the whole strength of the party. And from many circumstances, it is concluded, that Leviathan himself has given it some gentle touches. I very much suspect he wrote some parts himself.

You will see by this pamphlet, how we are cajoled. A Colony Bishop is to be a more innocent creature than ever a Bishop was, since Diocesan Bishops were introduced to lord it over God's heritage—and the effects of his coming to America, are to be everything that is good. Can the A-b-p, and his tools, think to impose on the Colonists by these artful representations. I expect this book will be reprinted with you, before this can have reached you. The people of New England are greatly alarmed; the arrival of a Bishop would raise them as much as any one thing. I hope an answer will be written to the southward. I expect one from among ourselves. I am not certain by whom. Dr. Chauncy is directly attacked; if he does not choose to write, another person will. I beg, dear Sir, nothing may be neglected on your side the Atlantic, to prevent the threatened evil. Our General Court is now sitting. I have hinted to some of the members, that it will be proper for them to express their fears of the setting up an hierarchy here. I am well assured a motion will be made to this purpose. Our Assembly is greatly warmed with the late Acts of Parliament. I wish some hot spirits do not break out into a flame and produce a general conflagration. There are men with you, and men with us, who regard no consequences, if they can but gratify their passions. I may be mistaken, but I am persuaded the dispute between Great Britain and her Colonies will never be *amicably* settled. It might easily, if both were wise, and would set down where they are, with a *uti possidetis*. But I expect the Parliament will proceed further, and God knows what will be the event. I sent you a few hasty remarks on the A-b-p's sermon. I have since looked more carefully into it, and find other passages full as exceptionable as those I have remarked upon, which I shall give you my thoughts upon. I write for your amusement and my own, rather than from any thought that these remarks will be worthy the public notice. Something, however, I shall put into the prints.

I am more and more convinced of the meanness, art—if he was not in so high a station, I should say, falsehood—of that Arch-Pr-l-te. I am too much provoked to say more. I do not expect you to answer all my scrawls; it will be

enough if you let me know you have received them, and are not displeased with the frequent intrusions of,

Sir, your very obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



Boston, N. E., April 18, 1768.

DEAR SIR,

I received, by Capt. Jenkyns, your agreeable letter of December 18, with the very kind present accompanying it; and by the same conveyance, a note dated December 26, with a receipt for the above parcel. I am exceedingly obliged to you for this repeated instance of generosity and affection.

The Anti-Confessionalists seem determined to overcome the good Archdeacon with numbers, since they cannot any other way. They gather upon him like enraged wasps, whose quiet has been disturbed. But, thanks to Heaven, they have lost their sting. If the clergy had now, as formerly, the command of the civil arm, that excellent man would soon feel the weight of their resentment; possibly their impotence makes them the more outrageous. I rejoice that there are any who dare to come to his help, against spiritual wickednesses in high places. It must give him great satisfaction to find such worthy seconds. I shall wait, with impatience, for the A-d-n's own appearance. I hope he will write at large, and fully expose his adversaries. They will melt like wax before the sun.

I received your commission concerning the New-England coin, with the greatest pleasure, but am greatly disappointed in the execution of it. I can find no one who hath ever heard of *Massachusetts in pourtraiture of the good Samaritan*. I believe it must have been a medal struck on some particular occasion. The sixpence and the penny, some tell me they have seen; but I cannot at present procure them. If they are in New England, I shall have them.

Our silversmiths are so careless that they melt up all the old pieces of silver that come into their hands. They tell

me of many curious pieces which they have destroyed in this manner. I rescued a crown piece of Edward VI., which, though something worn, has all the figures and letters visible, date 1551—as also a fine medal of George I., struck on occasion of Sir George Byng's victory over the Spaniards in the Mediterranean, anno 1718. This medal is quite fresh. So unknowing am I in things of this nature, that I know not whether these are any curiosity on your side the water or not. I have also all the other New England coin; they are all scarce, except the pine-tree shillings and sixpences, which are plenty. I have several two-pence and three-pence, very well preserved. I have no use for any of these; if they will be agreeable to you, or your friends, they are entirely at your service. I beg, dear Sir, you would command me with the greatest freedom. No commission from you can give me any trouble. It would be one of the highest pleasures I can have in life, to be able to oblige you. There are New England shillings of four or five different dies, which are common.

The subject of New England coins brings to mind an anecdote I have often heard of Sir Thomas Temple, brother to Sir William Temple, which I suppose to be true. That gentleman resided several years in New England, in the time of the interregnum; after the restoration he returned to England; the King sent for him and conversed with him concerning the state of affairs in the Massachusetts, and discovered great warmth against that Colony. Among other things, he said they had invaded his prerogative, by coining money. Sir Thomas, who was a real friend to the Colony, endeavored to soften His Majesty. He told him the people had but little acquaintance with law, that they had no bad design, and thought it was no crime to make money for their own use. In the course of the conversation, he took some of the money out of his pocket, and gave it to His Majesty. One kind of the pines, is a good deal thick and bushy. The King inquired what tree that was. Sir Thomas, artfully taking hold of that circumstance, informed His Majesty it was the Royal Oak. The Massachusetts people, says he, did not dare to put your Majesty's name on their coin, and so put the oak which preserved your life. The King was put into a fit of good humor, said they were

a parcel of honest d—gs, and was disposed to hear favorable things of them.

I formerly wrote you that the people in New England would submit to the new burthens laid upon them. I thought so at that time ; I have different sentiments now. The Commissioners are objects of the public odium. Representations are made by our Assembly against the new taxes. If these do not succeed, I fear very disagreeable consequences. Things are hastening fast to a crisis. What will be the event, God knows. If there is any prudence in those who hold the reins on your side the water, they will be very careful not to drive matters to extremity.

A piece was published in one of the papers, which was supposed to reflect on the Governor. Few approved of it. But perhaps the wisest method had been to have treated it with neglect. The Governor thought otherwise, and laid it before the General Assembly, who were then sitting. You will see by the prints, that the two Houses were of very different sentiments. The Governor treated them very differently in his last speech. The Superior Court sat directly. It was given in charge to the Grand Jury to present the piece as a libel ; they could not find a bill, and so the matter rests ; several counsellors are threatened at the next election. I am no friend to licentiousness ; but the liberty of the press must be preserved sacred, or all is over !

By Capt. Cazneau, I had the honor of sending you Dr. Chandler's Appeal to the Public. I now send you, my worthy friend Dr. Chauncy's answer, which I believe you will think solidly done. He would, perhaps, have written with more spirit before he was so far advanced in life. I take the liberty to inclose a copy of the same for worthy Dr. Harris. I wrote to the Doctor and the excellent Archdeacon by Capt. Cazneau.

The Episcopalian controversy at present engrosses the attention of the public. The papers at New York and Philadelphia are filled with it. So much the better. The ministry will see that a Colony Bishop will not be easily introduced. I suppose Dr. Chandler's artful performance was designed to feel the pulse of the people. I have put up a sermon by a worthy minister in the country, by which

you will see something of the spirit which is raised against the Episcopal party through the Province.

The President informs me he has a receipt for a box of books which you have been so good as to send to the College. The box is not yet sent to College; when it is, you will hear from that good gentleman.

The vessel by which I hope to send this, is like to sail sooner than I expected. I have time only to add, that I am, with the greatest respect,

Your obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

I forgot to mention that Mrs. Mayhew has lately buried her father, in an advanced age.



*Boston, Sept. 27, 1768.*¹

DEAR SIR,

I received yours by Capt. Bruce, the 24th instant, together with your very agreeable present, for which I heartily thank you.

The Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law was not written by the late Mr. Gridley. I have been *privately* but

¹ The following memorandum appears in Dr. Eliot's handwriting:

Massachusetts Gazette, June 23, contains a very extraordinary Circular Letter from L: Hillsborough. It came from Rhode Island to us. It is very diverting to hear R—de Island commended for their "reverence for the laws." No one Colony hath taken such liberties as they have from their beginning; but the scheme was to soothe the other Colonies, that Massachusetts might be alone. How it succeeded, the letters from the Colonies will show. That from Virginia is excellent; one can scarce conceive a more innocent letter than that which Lord Hillsboro' so highly censures.

July 7, contains the Governor's Message to the House, with Lord Hillsboro's Letter to him, requiring the House to rescind resolutions which had been passed by a former House, and which must already have had all the effect they could have! This paper also contains the proceedings of the House. Six of the towns whose members voted for rescinding, have disapproved of their conduct, and voted thanks to the ninety-two anti-rescindors. These towns are marked in the list of the seventeen. The glorious ninety-two is the reigning toast. No measure could have been more impolitic than this of Lord Hillsboro's. I was fearful that the other colonies would blame Boston, for so open opposition to the laws of trade, and leave us to bear the weight of ministerial vengeance. But this letter, and the consequent dissolution, has taught *them* that it was a common cause, and has effectually united them.

A. E.

authentically informed that the author was Mr. Adams, (not our Representative, who penned the address to the King, and the letters contained in the first part of the collection, but) a young gentleman of the law, who hath lately removed from the country into Boston, and is likely to make a shining figure at the bar.

The parcel you have intrusted to me for the College, I shall carry thither in a few days. I fear you have not heard from the President of the receipt of some of your last benefactions to that society. That good gentleman hath been extremely ill, and continues yet very weak. I shall make inquiry of him at the next corporation meeting, which will be this week.

Capt. Deverson did not arrive till some days after Capt. Bruce, so that I have not received your favor by him. When your letter, of which you are so good as to inform me, comes to hand, I shall soon make my acknowledgments.

Things are far from being in that happy state in which you, and all friends to Great Britain and her Colonies, wish them to be. You will see, by the papers, something of the confusion we are in. But you cannot well conceive of our distress. We expect every hour two regiments from Halifax. The Governor warmly insists that one should be quartered in the Town. The Council are determined to keep them both at the castle. The latter, you easily perceive, will not answer the end for which it is supposed they are sent, which is to introduce the Commissioners into the Town, who are yet at the castle. Both the Governor and the Council are high. We expect two other regiments from Ireland. What will be the event, God knows. If the Commissioners should return to Town, it seems to me they will be in a very uneasy situation, much worse than they were before they left it. They are so much the objects of popular odium, that they will be in actual danger if they go without their guards.

At present, people do not seem disposed to resist the troops, but their tempers are in such a ferment, that they may easily be pushed on to the most desperate measures; and if the troops attempt to quarter in the Town, I greatly fear the consequence. I hope the commanding officer will conduct with prudence and caution.

To have a standing army! Good God! what can be worse to a people who have tasted the sweets of liberty! Things are come to an unhappy crisis; there will never be that harmony between Great Britain and her Colonies, that there hath been; all confidence is at an end; and the moment there is any blood shed, all affection will cease.

The Committees from the several Towns are now met in convention, between 80 and 90. I know not how this step will be approved on your side the water. Their chairman (Mr. Cushing) assures me their determinations will be moderate, and their session short; and that they will not attempt any acts of government. But if the troops arrive before they break up, I will not be bound for their moderation. The people have, at present, great confidence in them. A gentleman well acquainted with the secrets of the times, just now informed me, that there were three parties in the convention. One, who were fearful of the legality of their proceedings, and would gladly break up without doing any thing. Another party would willingly leave the people to themselves, and not lay any restraints upon them. A third desire to sit till the troops come, and to take the direction of affairs into their own hands. Which party will prevail is uncertain.

I just returned from a journey into the country. I find the people through this Province, are ripe for almost any thing. But how it is with other Provinces, I cannot say. They write well, but do nothing. I fear we must stand the brunt of ministerial vengeance, unless there is some great change at home. What can we do! Tamely to give up our rights, and to suffer ourselves to be taxed at the will of persons at such a distance, and to be under military government, is to consent to be slaves, and to bring upon us the curses of all posterity; and yet how unable to cope with Great Britain! How dreadful the thought of a contest with the parent country, in whose calamities we have always borne a part, and in whose peace we have enjoyed peace. Whatever distresses come, we shall not suffer alone; whatever evils come on the Colonies, Great Britain will sensibly feel; and our increase is so great, that time will be, when we shall be free. How impolitic to precipitate a disunion!

Our hopes are great from the agreement not to import goods. No measure would have more important effects, if we had virtue to stand to it; but I fear it will be broke through. In short, dear Sir, we have every thing to fear, and scarce any room to hope but in the power and goodness of the almighty Governor of the world. Days of fasting and prayer are appointed in many towns, and will be general. I am sure this will put you in mind of 1641.

What news I shall write you next, God knows; hearing of a vessel just ready to sail, I snatched a few moments to give you this sketch of our public affairs, and to assure that I am, with the greatest gratitude and esteem,

Dear Sir, your obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

To Thomas Hollis, Esq.



Boston, N. E., Oct. 17, 1768.

DEAR SIR,

Your kind and excellent letter, dated ~~May~~ 25, 1768, I received by Capt. Deverson, and am extremely obliged to you for the very valuable present which accompanied it. The books you have enriched me with, are all curious; many of them are excellently adapted to the present state of this country. I shall not fail to put them into the hands of those who will know how to make a proper use of them. Our connoisseurs are vastly pleased with the fine representation of William Tell, who laid the foundation of the liberties of Switzerland. Such a man deserves the highest honors through all generations! How much greater a character to be the saviour of mankind, than to be their tyrant and oppressor! I am also obliged to you for the print of the late excellent Dr. Mayhew. This, and the print of yourself, are finely designed; but I am not quite master of all the decorations.

The incomparable Arch-Deacon holds out, with surprising firmness and ability. The high-flying clergy are terribly alarmed. They unite in their opposition to The Confessional, as if the church was in the greatest danger; but

they are extremely various in their method of attacking that truly excellent performance. If I was to judge by the zeal and assiduity of the friends of the hierarchy, I should hope that book was like to have some great effects ; but I fear the reformation of the Church of England is a thing to be wished for, rather than expected.

We are greatly obliged to Mr. Fleming for his learned and judicious answer to Dr. Chandler's Appeal. That venerable, good man, deserves the thanks of every friend to truth, to virtue, to liberty, for his steady adherence to the glorious cause and his constant endeavors to promote it, at a time of life when almost any other man would desire to *rest* from his labors.

I find you are still determined to retire. I heartily congratulate you, that you have been able to carry your plan into execution—a plan so benevolently laid, so wisely and steadily pursued, that it will afford you the most agreeable reflections throughout life, which I pray God may be long, and as easy and happy to yourself, as it will be useful to others.

Your hint concerning an Agent is wise and important. It is exceeding difficult to persuade people to see and pursue their own true interest. I have been always of the opinion that if Mr. B—ll—n had been continued in his agency, many of the disputes we have had with Great Britain, and which it is probable we shall have, would have been prevented. He was perfectly acquainted with our affairs, would have been able to convince the ministry of the impolicy of their measures, if they were at all open to conviction, and would have taught his constituents here to conduct with caution and prudence, which certainly are not inconsistent with a firm adherence to our rights. I freely spake against that gentleman's dismissal as an imprudent step ; now it is too late ; others see and own it to be so. The Speaker of the late House of Representatives hath told me more than once, that he heartily wished they had taken my advice. Party views influenced them, as they generally do. We have no General Assembly, and no one can tell when we shall have. I fear whether any Agent we could now choose, would be able to serve us. *Jacta est alea* : We must wait the event.

The new College to be erected in Rhode Island Colony will be, I suppose, about sixty miles from Cambridge. It was at first designed to be on a catholic plan, and all denominations united to promote it. It was supposed Mr. Condry, a Baptist minister of great candor, learning and ingenuity, would be the first President. He would have been an honor to that or any other seminary. Mr. Condry did not approve the alteration that was made in the plan and in the charter. He desired the College might be on a broad bottom; and that the direction of it might not be confined to any particular denomination, as it now is too much. This excellent man (Mr. Condry) is lately deceased. He was a truly good man, a warm friend to both religious and civil liberty. As I lived in a happy intimacy with him, I have often heard him lament, that things were not ordered with respect to that College as he hoped they would have been. When he saw that he could do no good, he silently withdrew, as did all the Presbyterian or Congregational ministers, who had been nominated to be Trustees. One Mr. Manning was elected President. I do not mention these things, to raise any prejudice against this new seminary. Your observation is quite just and weighty: "If youth are but fairly grounded in learning, the best of them will make out their way to purest knowledge and truth." Besides, a Baptist College may answer some particular, valuable ends. Those of that denomination among us, have generally decried *human learning*, as they term it. And though they have had some men of eminence in the learned world, yet their teachers have generally been illiterate men.

This College, the charter of which is so favorable to that denomination, may possibly remove their prejudices against learning. They will be more likely to send their children to this seminary than to Cambridge, although the education there is quite free.

I heartily rejoice to hear the scheme of episcopizing America, is not likely to succeed. Some things have been written on this side the water, as if we would be content with a Bishop who had only the powers of ordination. For my own part, I dread a Bishop of the Church of England, in any shape. If such a creature comes among us, pretences will not be wanting to enlarge his power; and

no one here believes the Episcopalians, when they tell us, this power of ordination is all they desire. The death of the Archbishop occasions no lamentations here, except among the high-church party. I hope in God the place will be filled with a person of more candor, and one who will not be so eternally contriving to advance the hierarchy; one who will improve his power and influence, to reform a church which, if it is not declining in wealth and grandeur, is evidently declining in piety and virtue—and not one, who, like the last, will set himself to oppose every thing that looks like alteration or reformation.

The inquiry concerning the Papists has turned out much as I feared it would. No wonder they grow more insolent. They are not ashamed, neither do they blush, to fly in the face of all history, and to assert the most infamous falsehoods.

I wish, dear Sir, it was in my power to give a more comfortable account of our public affairs. They are in an unhappy state. Two regiments are landed in Boston. The commander refuses to go to the castle, where there are barracks—eight or ten ships of war lie before the Town. When the troops landed, there was no opposition. Two more regiments are expected from Ireland; if they are quartered in Town, it will be a perfect garrison. The Convention, of which I wrote you in my last, broke up very harmlessly. There is no more talk of resistance. The present disposition is to treat *them, the troops*, with civility, but to provide nothing. All is at present quiet; but there is a general gloom and uneasiness. The soldiers begin to desert—no one will betray them—about forty are gone already. We are threatened with further marks of ministerial anger. I know not what is designed; but am of opinion Great Britain will sooner or later repent her mistaken policy. Every thing hath not been conducted here with that prudence it might have been. But we are hardly treated, and the people feel it. The Commissioners are still at the castle. It is supposed they will soon return to Town. This will occasion great uneasiness, but no violence. The troops make all quiet.

I am extremely sorry I did not know sooner of your connection with Mr. Birch; the least intimation at his first

coming, would have procured him a very different reception, and have introduced him into an acquaintance that would have made his situation much more agreeable. I have never seen him, but have heard him spoken of with great respect by some who have been conversant with him. I believe his character stands fairer than most of the other Commissioners. At present there is no possibility of treating him as I should be glad to do. When he comes to Town I shall watch every opportunity to serve him.

We are told, that Dr. Chandler is preparing an Answer to Dr. Chauncy. Whoever writes, we shall have the whole strength of the party.

The Centinel is a very sensible paper, written at Philadelphia against Dr. Chandler, by one Mr. *Bryant*, as I was lately informed by a minister from that city. Some say Mr. Dickinson assists.

The good President hath been ill some months, and remains in a very feeble state. His death would greatly embarrass us. The place is important. Some upon whom the eyes of the people are fixed, will not be willing to undertake the charge, or their parishes will not consent to their removal. It will be very difficult to fill the place to satisfaction.

General Gage arrived at Boston from New York, the 15th instant. The Governor has summoned the Councillors from all parts of the Province, to meet the 19th, when it is supposed he will open his whole budget from Lord Hillsborough, which he intimates contains matters of very great importance. People wait with anxious expectation. The Governor, we are told, is soon to go from us. He hath but few friends; most suppose that he is, in a great measure, the author of our difficulties. Whether there is real ground for this prejudice, I cannot tell, but am persuaded he hath been more minute in his representations home, than was any way necessary, and that many things have been noticed, which might very well have been passed over. It is said Lieut. Governor Hutchinson is to succeed as Governor in chief. I cannot say I wish it for his sake. He is, I believe, a sincere friend to his country; but in the present situation of things, it will not always be easy to determine what is right and best. A Governor

must obey orders from home, however disagreeable to the people, or even to himself; and it will be quite impossible to give satisfaction on both sides the water.

I have now authority to inform you that the Dissertation on the canon and feudal law, was written by John Adams, Esq., a young gentleman of the law, who lately removed from the country into Boston. As I have the pleasure of an acquaintance with this gentleman, I presented him one of the copies you was so good as to send me, and let him know how favorably it was received in Great Britain. He also wrote the piece signed, *Sui Juris*; but though he seemed in that to promise more, he has not written any thing further. He has large practice, and I am mistaken if he will not soon be at the head of his profession. This information is not designed to be kept secret.

The academical honor you mention was a thing I neither sought nor desired. I have a less opinion of it than ever, since I found by the Arch-Deacon's last book, that he writes only M. A. That incomparable man deserves the greatest honors this world can afford. He is as much superior to them, as he is unlikely to receive them, in a church where a mean servility to superiors, and a bigoted zeal against all reformation, are almost the only merit.

I am very sorry the persons to whom I committed my letters have proved unfaithful. They have always given me the strongest assurances of care and prudence. I hope, under the present direction, the conveyance will be easy and safe.

I am, dear Sir, your obliged friend and obedient servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

Thomas Hollis, Esq., London.



Boston, Jan. 29, 1769.

DEAR SIR,

By reason of the President's illness, your kind letter of July 1, with the pamphlets which accompanied it, did not come to hand for some considerable time after Capt.

Deverson's arrival. That good gentleman is better, but still very feeble.

Mr. Howe, who writes in the Episcopal controversy, with which you was so good as to favor me, is a sensible spirited writer, and has given a just castigation to a little narrow bigot, who foolishly exposed himself. The person who last took up the cause, appears to have some reading, but is excessively dull. I hope Mr. Howe will again take up his pen, which he knows so well how to use.

Among the many valuable books with which you favored me the last summer, I am particularly obliged to you for the excellent Arch-Deacon's *Considerations*, and Mr. Herport's on Oaths. Nothing could be better calculated to give a just view of Popery, and the danger of its prevalence, than the A-D-N's book. It is clear, sensible, judicious, and at the same time concise, and would alarm those who have the guidance of affairs, if they had any concern about the true interest of the nation. The Bishops, where are they? Would it not be of advantage to have some intelligent persons constantly employed to find out and counterwork Popish agents? If they want money for such a purpose, they might borrow of the *Propagating Society*, who certainly cannot find a good use for theirs, or they would not dissipate it so shamefully as they do. When I find how admirably the A-D-N is employed, I do not wonder that I have not heard from him for a long time. I hope I shall not wholly lose a correspondence which does me so much honor.

Mr. Herport's book is upon a most interesting and important subject. The venerable author has not only said many things that are well worthy the attention of every state where oaths are imposed, but he has expressed himself with the greatest decency and solemnity. What demon possessed the magistrates of Berne! They ought rather, if I may borrow your significant expression, to (*have crowned*) "*crown him with oak leaves*," or to have made the remainder of life easy to the good old gentleman by an honorable pension—instead of this, they have persecuted him to death. Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel! None deserve contempt and detestation more than intolerant magistrates,

men who try to suppress all free inquiry. What a miserable place would this world be, if such as these bore a universal sway. Honest Mr. Herport, one would have thought, had said enough to have satisfied any one, of whom the lust of domination had not taken full possession. p 209. Every man has a right to speak his mind. I would not have burnt the book for that unhappy passage, but I sincerely wish the author had himself expunged it. Not long before I received this book, I had been reading honest General Ludlow's account of the generous protection afforded him by the magistrates of Berne, and felt a secret pleasure in the thought that there was such a land of liberty to be an asylum to patriots and virtue in distress. But it seems the state of things is changed infinitely for the worse—their true glory is departed. I hope the world will be favored with a more complete account of the extraordinary proceedings against this martyr in the cause of truth and virtue.

The Episcopal controversy makes but little noise in our Province; indeed, if we write, we are not likely to have any antagonists among us worthy notice. Our missionaries are not able to make any tolerable figure. At New York it is otherwise. I send you some papers written there against Dr. Chandler's Appeal. Some of them, I believe, will not be unacceptable. They are not all written with equal spirit. Mr. Livingston and Mr. Scott, both gentlemen of the bar, are supposed to be the principal authors. Dr. Chandler purposes an answer to Dr. Chauncy; he takes time enough to do his best, and perhaps to consult his superiors. The Episcopalians at New York have taken every low method to blacken Dr. Chauncy. His character is too well established to be injured by their malicious attempts. If our Episcopalians should begin to stir, they would soon be taken down. I am glad my friend Mr. Adams's Sermons proved agreeable. The law fixing grammar schools in every Town, you justly esteem a *prime* law. By means of it the seeds of knowledge are scattered through the land. Scarce any are to be found among us, even in the obscurest parts, who are not able to read and write with some tolerable propriety. And it is besides a happy provision for our young gentlemen, when

they leave college, and prevents their hurrying into the learned professions, as they must otherwise do for a subsistence. Some sordid, niggardly souls, enemies to all learning, of which there are always enough in our General Assembly, have ever looked upon this Law with envy, and have desired to get it repealed. We were alarmed when a considerable Town instructed their representative to move for a repeal. The ministers openly appeared in defence of it. Having occasion to preach before a number of the representatives, on one of our public Thanksgivings, I endeavored to show the advantage of this Law. The Sermon was desired for the press. I have an aversion to such publications; however, should have yielded, if it had been necessary. But by conversing with some of the leading members of the Assembly, we so effectually secured our cause, that a motion was never made; and there is no danger, at present, that it will meet with success, if it should be made hereafter. I have sent you a sermon of the late Dr. Colman, in which you will see what a superiority he supposes this law gives us over the parent kingdom; you will find the passage p. 11, 12. There is nothing else remarkable in the sermon. The person ordained is a worthy, ingenious, learned man.

I have made diligent inquiry concerning Mr. Cotton's *Abstract of Laws and Government*, and have found one copy in Mr. Mather's library, bound up with some other pamphlets, which has exactly the title you have transcribed. I have formerly seen a MS. in Mr. Cotton's hand-writing, which I believe was a first draught of this. It was corrected by our excellent Governor Winthrop, who wisely erased many sanguinary passages. This copy was in the possession of the Lieutenant Governor, but I fear was lost, with many other valuable papers, in the unhappy catastrophe of his house.

There is no remarkable alteration in our public affairs. We have four regiments and part of a fifth. One regiment is at the castle, the rest are in this Town. The soldiers are in raptures at the *cheapness* of spirituous liquors among us; and in some of their drunken hours, have been insolent to some of the inhabitants; but in general the Town is surprisingly quiet. The discipline is so shockingly

severe, that the common men are afraid to offer the least insult. The officers are most troublesome, who, many of them, are as intemperate as the men. Col. Pomroy, the present commander of the troops, and Commodore Hood, of the ships, have the character of prudent, discreet men. But upon the whole, the people are very uneasy with the company of these armed men. There is, however, no disposition to oppose them. We are still deprived of a General Assembly, and have no expectation of having one until the General Election in May.

The Council you will see, by their late proceedings, have changed their note. It is by no means a well constituted body, chosen annually by the representatives and *by themselves* ! subject to a negative from the King's Governor. Sometimes they are intimidated by the House of Representatives. At other times they are under the awe of a negative. This precarious situation makes their conduct fickle, uncertain and inconsistent. At one time this motive preponderates ; at another, that. A few years since, when some interesting point was depending, the Council were menaced by the Governor on one hand, and the House on the other. An honest old Councillor broke out in that homely language, "In short, we are like a turnip, squeezed between two trenchers." Besides, they often hold places, or have expectations for themselves and their friends, which renders them still more dependent. At present there are but few men of abilities among them. One or two changing sides, the rest follow. I speak freely to you, Sir, because I know I speak safely. The papers they have lately composed, are said to be written by Mr. Bowdoin, a gentleman of learning, integrity and fortune. At present the Board is under his influence. I wish they may never be under a worse direction. Bad as the constitution of the Council is, if they are appointed from home, it will be still worse—we shall have *strangers, crown officers, pensioners, court dependents*, and what not ?

Lord Hillsborough's Letter to the other Colonies, has had a very different effect from what the ministry proposed. They have one and all, who are not under military government, sent respectful answers to the Massachusetts Letter, and have united in their petitions and remonstrances home.

The ministry could not possibly have contrived a more effectual method to unite the Colonies, than the writing that Circular Letter. The several Assemblies see it is now a common cause, and nothing will prevail with them to *rescind* or to give up any of their rights. The second resolve of New York is higher than anything that has passed in the Massachusetts Assembly.

[We have just had the King's speech, and the *echo* of the Lords and Commons. They are exceeding high against this Town and Province. What can the ministry propose farther? We have troops. We do not resist them. The duties, unreasonable as we think them, are paid without opposition. Perhaps the Town has not in every thing acted with that prudence that might be wished; but what could be expected from a people struggling for liberty and made almost desperate by the measures taken with them. I will not say we have none among us of malevolent dispositions, but, in general, I believe the King has not more loyal subjects in any part of his dominions. The letters from Great Britain give us very different, *contrary* representations of the disposition of the Parliament, and of the people on your side the water—we scarce know what to believe. Our Agent writes smooth things to us, but I have long thought that good old gentleman knew very little of the matter. The alienation between Great Britain and her Colonies, seems to be increasing fast; can this be for the advantage of either? A wise ministry, methinks, would endeavor to contrive some lenient healing measures. Only let us be put in the situation we were before the unhappy Stamp Act, and I hope all will be well, though I must own my opinion is the Colonies will never be so easily managed as they were before that fatal æra.] We are told the Parliament will offer us a share in the representative body. Will they incorporate us, and allow a free trade, as they allowed Scotland? If they do, they will soon lose the trade of the Colonies, who can purchase much cheaper elsewhere. If they do not, we shall not think we are upon an equitable footing. In short, our local circumstances render a representation impracticable, and there are very few in this or any of the Colonies that would accept it, or would not think it better to submit to the acts of

which we complain, than agree to such a compromise. Could we find men to represent us, of such virtue that they could not be seduced, or of such abilities that they could not be deceived, (which in the present state of human nature is too much to expect,) yet what a small proportion would they bear in a British House of Commons. The most, by far, would be unacquainted with our circumstances, and could not feel our grievances; and as they would then claim an unlimited right to tax us, might think to recommend themselves to their constituents by laying burthens on the Colonies, [though in truth Great Britain will not be the better for any monies raised from us. They will certainly lose it all in their commerce, and instead of easing the nation, it would be disposed of to some hungry dependents or ministerial tools. How little is Great Britain served by the large sums given away in pensions from the revenue in Ireland.] Besides, what confusion would it introduce to have a representation in Parliament, and at the same time have Assemblies of our own? What uncertainty about the power of the one and the rights of the other! What a clashing of measures! while the poor Colonists must be under the control of both, and be liable to have their money taken away by both. But I fear I trouble you too much with these matters. The situation of my country, and the present aspect of things, lies near my heart—and I write with the utmost freedom to you who have such just sentiments of liberty, and so entire an abhorrence of tyranny and oppression, in whatever form it appears, and of every invasion of the rights of mankind.

Before I finish this long epistle, I beg leave to return you my sincerest thanks for your very obliging letter, and present, by Capt. Scott, which I have just received. Governor Pownal's book is curious, and contains many valuable thoughts. No man has had greater advantages to know the state of the Colonies than that gentleman. What his present views are, it is hard to say. Whether, as you hint, "the being sent as Mentor to a young Personage of very high rank;" or to be one of our Representatives, if that scheme should take; or if it should not, to be employed as Agent for this Province, or rather as General Agent for all the Provinces. Certain it is, that he is carrying on a secret

correspondence with some leading men in this Province, and I am told in the other Colonies. We ought to be satisfied of the integrity, as well as abilities, of those whom we trust with our interest; an ambitious, crafty, designing man, would only carry us to market, and make the best bargain he could for himself.

If you should have occasion to write to Dr. Harris, be so good as to let him know I have received his kind present, and shall soon answer his obliging letter.

I have sent the parcel to Cambridge, which you put under my care for Harvard College. All your generous donations to that society, mentioned in yours of Nov. 1, 1768, have been received, and acknowledgments made by the corporation. The President is very forgetful. I immediately gave notice to him of the omission. You have in this parcel a letter from him, which I conclude will contain the good gentleman's apology.

I must ask your pardon for detaining you so long, and am, with the sincerest gratitude and affection, your obliged friend, and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



Boston, July 10, 1769.

DEAR SIR,

Our good President was taken from us the first of June, in the eightieth year of his age and thirty-second of his Presidentship. I am at a loss who will be his successor—probably it will be Mr. Winthrop, Hollis Professor of Mathematics. His learning and abilities are unquestionable. He is older than we should choose, and is frequently taken off from business by bodily infirmities; but it is difficult to find one every way qualified, and who would be willing to undertake such a trust.

The inclosed vote ought to have been transmitted sooner; the President's ill state of health prevented. [For books sent by Capt. Scott, to the care of Rev. Dr. Eliot.]¹

The state of our public affairs is still uncomfortable;

¹ Note by Hollis.

the ministry act a very weak, impolitic part; they keep the Colonies in a ferment, and the nation gains nothing. I have sometimes given offence by opposing some measures among us which I thought rash; but I begin to think I have been mistaken. Every step the ministry takes, serves to justify our warmest measures—and it is now plain that if they had not had their hands full at home, they would have crushed the Colonies; and that if we had not been vigorous in our opposition, we had lost all. I fear nothing is to be expected from the justice or equity of P——t. The treatment of the Colonies on your side the water, tends greatly to alienate them from the parent country, and to hasten that independency which at present the warmest among us deprecate. Things will not be settled till we have an American bill of rights.

Governor Bernard is just leaving us. I wish he had taken his departure years ago. Though he is going, our House of Representatives have petitioned the King to remove him. In their petition, I am told, they have treated him with great freedom. His conduct deserves it. I send you a copy of his letters and the proceedings of the Council, so far as they are printed—they are as yet private among us. I procured them by Mr. Adams's interest.

Two of our four regiments are gone to Halifax. We are encouraged to hope for the removal of all. It is not easy to divine what they came for. I send in the papers, the Messages of the Governor and the Answers of the House, and such other publications as we have. Dr. Chauncy will soon reply to Dr. Chandler. I have taken the liberty to inclose a small parcel to Dr. Harris.

I am, dear Sir, with the greatest sincerity, your obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



Boston, N. E., Sept. 7, 1769.

DEAR SIR,

Your very acceptable letters of May 10, 1769, and June 26, 1769, I have received, with the kind and generous present which accompanied each; for which please

to accept my sincere acknowledgments. We should be quite ignorant what is said for or against us in Great Britain, if it were not for your obliging care. I have put these publications into the hands of those who are able to make the best use of them, and have inserted the extracts from your public prints in our weekly papers.

The letter from the late A-B-P, relative to an American bishop, is like the man, smooth, plausible and artful. You cannot have one in that high station so well versed in the art of wheedling and cajoling. I look on his removal as a signal favor of Providence. Dr. Chandler must have seen this epistle, or the substance of it, before he wrote. There is scarce anything material in the Doctor's long, labored, dull performances, but it is to be found in this. What an innocent animal is our American bishop to be! Such a bishop as the world scarce ever saw, if it was in his power to be greater. A bishop of the Church of England without temporal power or worldly pomp!!! Surely the A-B-P must have much too contemptible an opinion of the understanding of the Americans, to imagine they would suffer themselves to be imposed upon by such flimsy pretexts. If we have a bishop, he will be like the rest of the order; once introduced, there will never want pretences to increase his power—therefore we will not have one, unless we are compelled; no, not so much as to ride through the country to confirm. Our Episcopalians, except a very few, would not give sixpence to feel his holy hands on their heads. They have no value for that paltry rite; and if a bishop must come, it would be quite as acceptable to have his lordship of Quebec, as an English bishop. The letter to the bishop of Albany, is excellently calculated to expose the scheme. I have given it to the printers; it will be attended with some remarks on the negligence of the society in omitting to send missionaries to Canada—while so many are sent among the Presbyterians in New England.

Your sentiments of an Agent are quite just. But party and parsimony prevail. Mr. Adams's reputation is so high, that I believe he might obtain the Agency. But as he has not been long in business, he has at present other views. I am mistaken if his abilities and integrity do not soon raise him to a station of eminence.

I fear for the nation. It is unhappy that there is no one in whom they can put confidence—there can be no danger from a change of ministry—we cannot easily have a worse. The Colonists have great expectations that their affairs will issue well. The ministry certainly had a design to new-model our constitution, at least in this Province; but they have had business enough at home—this has been our security, and we think will be. Our people begin to despise a military force. The troops desert in great numbers; it is common to hear that six or eight go off in a night. When the officers behave ill, as they often do, no one scruples to take the advantage of the law, which to their great mortification has its course, notwithstanding all their efforts. Things cannot long remain in the state they are now in; they are hastening to a crisis. What will be the event, God knows.

The President's chair is still vacant, several in the corporation, who have been thought of, have utterly declined that trust; among the rest, Mr. Winthrop. I know not where we shall look next. At the desire of the corporation, I transmit to you their vote of thanks.

The Lieutenant Governor is about to publish a volume of ancient papers. I have not seen them, but understand Mr. Cotton's laws are among them—perhaps not from the best copy. When the book is finished, I hope to have the honor of sending it to you.

I have endeavored to prevent, as far as lay in my power, your being troubled with American visitants or correspondents. I hope you will not take it amiss, that I mention to you a worthy young merchant, Mr. Samuel Eliot, a nephew of mine and peculiarly dear to me, who has lately sailed for London. He was brought up under the ministry of the late excellent Dr. Mayhew. If it should be in your way to serve him, I shall take it as a great favor. He knows nothing of my mentioning him, and has no expectation of your notice.

I am, dear Sir, with the greatest gratitude and respect, your obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

To Tho's Hollis, Esq.

Boston, N. E., Dec. 25, 1769.

DEAR SIR,

The box of books and tracts which you sent by Capt. Allen, to be forwarded by me to Harvard College, I received, and have conveyed to Cambridge. Inclosed you have a copy of the corporation's vote of thanks. I heartily thank you for the parcel in the box directed to me, which I found to contain a number of valuable books and tracts—and for your very obliging letter, dated Aug. 12, '69. I hope you have received the several letters and little parcels I had sent before the receipt of yours—in which I have acknowledged the receipt of those letters you mention in your last.

I trust this will find you returned from Dorsetshire. It is my sincere desire that you may meet with a situation that is agreeable to you, and that will confirm the health and protract the life of one who has been so unwearied in his endeavors to promote the public good, and to whom I am under the greatest personal obligations.

What you mention with respect to Mr. Kearsley, may be of importance to both countries. I have written to my kinsman, whom I formerly took the liberty to mention to you, and who is now in England, desiring him to see Mr. Kearsley and to settle a correspondence with him. I know no one more capable of discharging such a trust, or who will more readily undertake it. I wish some personal scurrilities were omitted in our papers; however, these had better be tolerated, than the liberty of the press, that *palladium* of every thing valuable, should be invaded. I am glad Mr. Kearsley has avoided these. The public transactions of the Colonies ought to be known in England—and it will be of great service *to us*, to have some of our best political pieces republished there.

It is a great pity the *Favorite* ever returned to create suspicions and jealousies in the minds of a people already sufficiently exasperated. But it is to be feared, there is something more than jealousy in the sentiments the nations have of this mischievous THANE; that he has too much influence in the public measures.

The Conduct of the Earl of Chatham, a pamphlet you

was so good as to send me, though evidently written by some tool of the ministry, yet I fear contains some alarming truths. What a situation is the nation in, if ONE, who owes his all to the free choice of the people, is no friend to their freedom! God grant he may have juster notions, before it be too late. I heartily pray, *God save the King* from arbitrary principles, evil counsellors, a corrupt Parliament, and unconstitutional measures. If the King can do no wrong, his ministers may; and when they do wrong, they ought to be h-g-d.

The affair of *Lutterell*, is one of the greatest insults on common sense I ever knew. It is high for the House of Commons to assume a power of determining who shall not sit—but it is insufferable, when they take upon them to impose members who have never been elected.

The Colonies wait with patience to hear the result of Parliament. Lord Hillsboro' has written a letter to soothe them, wherein he promises a repeal of the duties on *glass*, *paper* and *painters' colors*, but leaves out *tea*. The Colonies will never be easy without a repeal of the whole. How weak is the conduct of the ministry! They show by their condescensions that they are afraid of driving things to extremities in the Colonies, and yet know not how to give up with a good grace. The Americans are determined to hold out. I wish in some things they were more temperate—but certainly it is best for Great Britain to repeal the obnoxious Acts. The non-importation takes place throughout almost all the Colonies. By what I can learn, there is greater opposition to it in Boston, than there is in any of the Provinces that have come into the agreement. Our first subscription was to continue till the first of January, 1770. The merchants afterwards renewed it, and engaged not to import till the Acts should be repealed. A number who came into the first agreement, refused to subscribe to the second—several of these latter have goods, imported since the agreement took place, and have resigned them to the care of the merchants who have stored them. When the first of January arrives, the owners will insist upon it, that their engagement is at an end—and seem determined to expose their commodities to sale. This will occasion warm debates, and much altercation. I know not what

will be the event—but things must come to some crisis—and if the acts are not repealed, I am very fearful of the consequence. The minds of people are in a great ferment. Our Assembly is to meet in about a fortnight. It is difficult to guess in what temper they will come together. Personal resentment against Governor Bernard has sometimes led to warm measures, that might not have taken place, if he had been out of the chair. As he is gone, that occasion of offence is removed. The Lieutenant Governor has many enemies; he has also many friends. He must not attempt any thing against our liberties. I hope he is not disposed—that he has a real regard for his country. At all events, the Assembly will stand by their rights; they dare not give up the least iota. There is one thing which threatens a contention at the very beginning of the session. Last summer the Assembly refused to do business in Boston, because the main guard was placed just over against the court-house. The Governor, to end the dispute, carried the Court to Cambridge. The guards still remain. The Speaker tells me the House will not proceed to business, unless they are removed. I believe the Lieut. Governor will endeavor to fix the guard-house in some other place. I am doubtful whether this will be sufficient. I shall be sorry if the Court should be at Cambridge. It hinders the scholars in their studies. The young gentlemen are already enough taken up with politics. They have caught the spirit of the times. Their declamations and forensic disputes breathe the spirit of liberty. This has always been encouraged; but they have sometimes wrought themselves up to such a pitch of enthusiasm that it has been difficult to keep them within due bounds. But their tutors are fearful of giving too great a check to a disposition which may hereafter fill the country with patriots, and choose to leave it to age and experience to correct their ardor.

The corporation have at length chose a President. His name is LOCKE—a truly venerable name! This gentleman is minister of a small parish, about twenty miles from Cambridge. He has fine talents, is a close thinker, had at College the character of a first rate scholar; he is possessed of an excellent spirit, has generous, catholic sentiments, is

a friend to liberty, and is universally acceptable, at least so far as I have heard. He has not conversed so much with the world as I could wish, and perhaps has not a general acquaintance with books; but he loves study, and will have opportunity at College to improve, being not yet forty years old. We know not whether he will accept. I am to set out, with a committee of the overseers, on the morrow, for *Sherburne*, where Mr. Locke lives, to make the invitation in form.

I am, dear Sir, with great respect, your obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



Boston, Feb. 1, 1770.

DEAR SIR,

I am loth to trouble you so often, but was desirous you might see what Dr. Chauncy had written against Dr. Chandler, as soon as possible. The Doctor writes solidly, rather than correctly. The piece published in the Appendix, gives a further specimen of the spirit of the Episcopalians. I send one of these pamphlets, directed to Dr. Harris. If it will give you the least inconvenience to send it to that worthy gentleman, please to dispose of it elsewhere.

I wrote you in my last, that Mr. Locke was chosen President. We are to receive his answer next week. 'Tis supposed that he will accept.

A gentleman of character from Canada, has been in Town; he informs that the popish interest in that Province has gained ground amazingly, since the introduction of a bishop, which was a favor the Canadians did not at all expect. Since his arrival, the Papists are insolent; refuse their churches to the Protestants, which *these* had freely used before. Instead of our gaining proselytes *from* them, great numbers [disbanded soldiers and others] are gone over *to* them, and discouragements are thrown in the way of those who would renounce Popery. There is certainly, of late years, a secret influence in the British court in favor of the Romish church. I wish in the end it may

not have some terrible effect which is not at present thought of.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



Boston, June 28, 1770.

DEAR SIR,

Your very obliging favor dated December 5, 1769, I received, with the kind present which accompanied it. Please to accept my hearty acknowledgments.

A-D-N Blackburne's Commentary on the A-B-P's Letter to Mr. Walpole is, like himself, excellent throughout. The Americans read it with avidity, and hold themselves extremely obliged to the incomparable author. Be so good, if you have opportunity, to make my particular acknowledgments for this unanswerable performance, to that worthy man, whom I shall always reverence and honor. May he long live to be a scourge to bigoted and insidious churchmen, and to defend the rights and liberties of mankind! I immediately sent a copy to New York, where this controversy is more warmly agitated than it is with us. [Our churchmen cannot write.] Dr. Rodgers, a worthy Presbyterian minister in that city, writes in return, "I am much obliged to you for Dr. Burton's panegyric on the A-B-P, though I am much disgusted with it; and think that he has, whatever Dr. Markham may have done, indeed injured him by his assistance." A-D-N B—ne's critical Commentary on Dr. Secker's Letter, gives me a pleasure I cannot express. I think it is very plain that the A-B-P set Dr. Chandler to work, and highly probable that he furnished him with a copy of his letter to Mr. Walpole, as the ground-work. But I hope a gracious God has defeated the baleful design, of both the principal and his second. We think that the spirited opposition that has been made to an American Episcopate has, if not entirely defeated the measure, yet, delayed its execution—and we hope for half a century at least, which is a great thing—and the future friends of the cause of liberty will be under great advan-

tages for its defence against any future attempts on it of the like nature.

Dr. Stiles, of Newport, writes, "I received great pleasure from the remarks on A-B-P Secker's Answer to Mr. Walpole's Letter, upon the subject of an American Episcopate, and am highly obliged to you for it. I shall lend it to some of our church tories. It will be a good dose for them. He has opened the cabinet, the Pandora's box, and discovered the latent intrigues of this A-B-P. I have often heard Dr. Johnson, of Stratford, speak of *this Secker*, with high encomiums, being, like himself, a convert from us, cotemporary in age and conversion, resident at the University of Oxford, 1723, when Johnson was there. I mention this to show that the A-B-P might at that time, and from acquaintance with Cutler and Johnson, first conceive his favorite notion of episcopizing New England and America. It was, as I understood, in 1748, by letters of correspondence between Dr. Johnson and this said Dr. Secker, B-p Oxon, that Tho' Brad: Chandler was proselyted—learning or imbibing then, an assurance that in his day the hierarchy would be erected here, and that the young adventurers had a fair chance of becoming bishops and other dignitaries in the church. The same bait was at that time offered to me. I did not indeed see, though I easily might have seen, those letters. This piece satisfies me, that Secker and the rest of the B-ps even, gladly encouraged and brought forward the Popish Episcopacy at Quebec. I was not so clear before, that Dr. Chandler was excited to write by this A-B-P. I think the author enters well into the objections of the Americans. We are all obliged to him for developing sundry things, which, though we believed before, yet were in the dark. The Antigua affair, joined with that at Hopkinton, narrated by Dr. Mayhew, gives a proper idea of commissary authority. Could Secker be in earnest for tory bishops? Burton's panegyrick, betrays his high Oxonian domination and tyranny over conscience. The remarks are a good antidote for this piece of extravagant adulation. What will Dr. Chandler say, at an Episcopal divine so boldly and authoritatively deciding the dispute, with a declaration of the futility of his reasonings?"

I have endeavored to make a proper use of the hint you have given concerning political publications. Several gentlemen have engaged to send for them. I have often expressed my surprise, that no care has been taken, to know what has been said for and against us in Great Britain. Few of our merchants are readers, and others are out of the way of procuring. Our accounts of things are chiefly by private correspondences. The popular side have depended chiefly on Governor Pownal, Mr. Bollan and Mr. D'Berdt. The first is capable enough of giving intelligence, but, unless I am greatly mistaken, he is a thorough modern politician. Mr. Bollan I have always esteemed a gentleman of learning and integrity. Good Mr. D'Berdt did as well as he could; he would not willingly deceive, but perhaps was often deceived.

I find the catastrophe of the fifth of March has reached London. We are yet at a loss what will be the effect. It was an awful scene. There had been such an animosity between the inhabitants and the soldiery some time before this tragedy, that I greatly feared the event. The people seemed determined to be rid of such troublesome inmates, as soon as possible, but were generally careful not to be the aggressors. Capt. Preston, who commanded the party that fired on the unarmed inhabitants, had the character of a benevolent, humane man; he insists on his innocence, and that his men fired without his order. The evidence will be perplexed, if not contradictory. His trial, which, in common course, would have come on very soon after the action, has been deferred from time to time. It was adjourned to the beginning of this month; but one of the judges falling from his horse, the court could not proceed, and it is deferred to next term, which will be in August. People complain of the delay of justice. Perhaps it was best to defer the trial at the first—the minds of men were too much inflamed to have given him a common chance. But they are as calm now, as they are like to be at all—and if judges have power to delay trials as long as they please, it certainly is in their power to say whether there shall be any trial at all. It is my hearty prayer that he may have a fair and impartial hearing, and that justice may take place. It is said, if he is convicted, he will be par-

doned. This will give great uneasiness. In case of murder fully proved, it may be doubted whether any power on earth has a right to pardon. The action, let who will be guilty, cannot be justified; and it can answer no good end to palliate it. The passions of the inhabitants were raised that evening almost to madness, and it is amazing that they were kept from rushing, unarmed as they were, on the troops—in which case the consequence must have been dreadful. The whole serves to show the impossibility of our living in peace with a standing army. A free people will sometimes carry things too far; but this remedy will always be found worse than the disease. Trenchard's History of standing armies, with which you formerly obliged me, is excellent. Some are ready to represent the whole as a scheme of the Commissioners, without the least reason. But this shows the prejudice there is against them—which is such that there is no safety in conversing with them, or showing them the least respect. I do not hear that they have of late given any offence, either in their private or public character. But the office is detested, and they must be removed. I have been of the mind that no affront would be offered them, and I believe that it was not the intention of the leaders of the opposition to have the least injury done them. But Mr. Hulton's house, about four miles out of Town, has been attacked by a small party, and some windows broke. All parties disapprove the action. Mr. Birch and his lady resided with Mr. Hulton. They are all retired to the castle. We are at present in a state of confusion. There seems to be no government. The General Court refuse to do business at Cambridge. The Governor says he cannot bring them to Boston. I had rather they were anywhere than at College.

Unless there is some great alteration in the state of things, the æra of the independence of the Colonies is much nearer than I once thought it, or now wish it. It is for the interest of both countries to be united, if it can be on equitable terms. May God give wisdom to the Administration at home and prudence to the Colonies, or these disputes may end in the hurt if not ruin of both. In the present state of things, you may easily imagine what would be the consequence if Administration should send a Col-

ony Bishop. I much question whether the prayer put into his mouth in the print before the Political Register for September would be answered—whether he would be suffered to depart in peace.

What changes in your political world. Dr. Blackstone, whose Commentaries show how well he understood the constitution of England, votes and writes in favor of Luttrell; and Mr. Grenville, the author of our miseries, is in favor of Wilkes and the Colonies. Put Lord Hillsborough out of place, and he will turn patriot. Your great men do not even save appearances. We are glad however to have advocates, from whatever principle they act. If it were not for the opposition, the nation would be enslaved and the Colonies crushed. Our good ancestors used to say, "The earth helps the woman," and unless Providence makes use of bad men, the Lord have mercy on Great Britain! for among the great, I fear, there is scarce a virtuous character to be found. I should be glad to hope it was better among the other ranks, but the people could not be sold if they did not first sell themselves. I am sorry, dear Sir, you are almost alone; but a man of understanding and virtue, who will not run headlong with party, *per fas & nefas*, will find few in the present times with whom he can unite. May God preserve you till you see England virtuous and happy, to the utmost of your wishes! and all the disputes between the parent country and their Colonies, settled agreeably to equity and justice! and may a constitutional harmony subsist between them through all generations!

Mr. Locke was installed President March 21. I hope he will fill the place well. He is a gentleman of abilities and a good share of learning—of great prudence and a fine mind, and which is a great thing at this time, agreeable to all parties—perhaps his greatest defect is, that he does *not quite* know the world in all its departments—having lived in retirement. His introduction into such a public station will give him an opportunity to cultivate a more general acquaintance with men and things. His age will admit of improvements. He is under forty.

I find by the papers that worthy Dr. Harris has departed this life. The world can ill spare men of abilities, integ-

city and fortitude. But *we must resign*, when *Heaven claims their souls*.

Amidst the present confusions in England, I do not wonder you are fond of retiring ; but cannot wish it, for the sake of your friends and the public.

I am, dear Sir, with the greatest gratitude and respect, your obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.



Boston, Jan'y 26, 1771.

DEAR SIR,

I ought long ago to have acknowledged the receipt of your kind favor of June 2, 1770, but a very ill state of health rendered me almost incapable of writing at all. I was once obliged to retire in the midst of divine service. I thank God my health is pretty well restored. I return you my hearty thanks for the many curious pamphlets with which you have enriched me. Every thing relative to the Long Parliament, and the succeeding times, ought to be preserved.

I am glad the volume of "original papers" proved acceptable. I am uncertain whether Mr. Hutchinson will publish another volume. He hath it in contemplation, and would himself choose to publish, as he sets a great value on these ancient relics ; but there are but few who have a taste for such publications, or that enough consider the importance of *marking the beginnings of a people*. [Mr. Hutchinson is, as you say, a *gentleman* ; he certainly wishes well to his country—perhaps he had been more happy if he had been employed only as *Chief Justice*, in which station all parties were charmed with his abilities and integrity. But in the chief seat of government, it is impossible to give satisfaction on both sides the water, especially at such a time ; and it is difficult for the best minds to keep themselves pure. Places, pensions and salaries bias men without their knowing it ; and human nature is too easily warped by interest, connections, &c. I never, *for his own sake*, desired to see him Governor, lest it should destroy his comfort, and affect the purity of his heart.] But since

it is so ordered, I hope it will turn out well for himself and his country.

Nothing ever gave me a higher opinion of your wisdom and integrity, than your declining every public station. Your noble reason¹ for not seeking a *place* [*seat*] in the House of Commons, will be to your everlasting honor.

You was quite right in supposing the public confusions would soon put an end to the controversy with the Episcopalians—the annual sermons keep an American Bishop in sight—the design will never be abandoned—we fear a *coup de main*. Our friends, we trust, will be on the watch. I have endeavored to disperse the A-D-N's admirable *Critical Commentary* among our public libraries, especially those in the Colleges, where I thought it would be most read, and be most useful.

Another controversy hath unexpectedly arisen, we judge, from the Episcopalian quarter, although they do not appear in it. Our Baptist brethren, all at once, complain of grievous persecutions in the Massachusetts! These complaints were never heard of till we saw them in the public prints. It was a great surprise when we saw them, as we had not heard that the laws in force were not satisfactory. There was soon reason to suspect that the whole originated among us with a young Baptist minister from Pennsylvania, who has lately been introduced into this Town; and we were informed by our friends in that Colony, that the Baptists there had formed a coalition with the Episcopalians, and had refused to join the Presbyterians in opposing an American Episcopate. The truth of this you will easily believe, when you read an extract, which I now inclose, from one of the Philadelphia papers, which was lately published here. [Evening Post, Jan. 14, 1771.] I wish I could send you the whole of the abusive things that have been published there against this Province, on this subject; but it is not at present in my power. I wish our fathers had contrived some other way for the maintenance of ministers, than by a tax. Thank God, we have none in Boston. I do not like any thing that looks like an establishment. But in the way in which our ministers are gen-

¹ I saw it in the North Briton.

erally maintained, the Baptists can have very little reason to complain. For as soon as any produce a certificate that they are Baptists, they are excused from all ministerial taxes. The certificate is to be given by persons of their own denomination, who are hereby made the only judges, and who it is to be supposed (like all others) will be fond of increasing their party. There is no doubt that this exemption induces some to profess themselves Baptists. There may have been some particular acts of hardship and injustice, but they must have proceeded from some accidental cause. There is nothing in the present complexion of this country, that looks like persecution. Both magistrates and ministers are as free from it as they ever were in any age or country. If it were not so, I should detest New England as much as now I love it, and if possible would leave it. I waited on Mr. Stillman, a Baptist minister in my neighborhood, as soon as I saw the complaints in the public prints. I complained in my turn of the injury he did the country. I told him that if there was any thing wrong, we would join with him in getting it redressed. I spake to Speaker Cushing, Mr. Adams and others of the Assembly, who promised to look carefully into the matter, to have the law altered so as to give all reasonable satisfaction to the Baptists. Other ministers joined with me; and yet, after this, we found another advertisement wherein they mentioned that they had chose an Agent to repair to England to address His Majesty. We thought it very hard that they should apply against their own country at a time when there was such an unfavorable disposition towards us in the court of Great Britain.

In the public papers at Philadelphia, (for they attack us at a distance,) we are threatened with the loss of our charter, for our treatment of the Baptists. This hath raised a spirit against them among our sons of liberty—as I am in friendship with both parties, I converse with both. Many among the Baptists in this Town, are much displeased with the publications, and insist that their ministers shall exculpate themselves from being the authors of these cruel charges against their country. Both the Baptist ministers have declared to me that they are sorry they have proceed-

ed so far, and that they will publish no more. The scheme of sending to England is, I hope, at an end, and that all will be amicably settled. It will be, unless the Episcopalians stir up the Baptists at the Southward. You will excuse my enlarging on this head; the reason is, that I fear some malevolent persons have sent false accounts to England. If there are any charges brought against us there, we shall be glad to be made acquainted with them, that we may have opportunity to vindicate ourselves. I hate every species of persecution, and cannot bear that a people should be accused of it that in my conscience I believe are free from it.

On all accounts I dislike the Court's setting at Cambridge, especially in the College. Happily they have not yet convened in so cold weather as to have a fire, and I trust effectual methods will be taken to prevent it, and to remove them at least from the College buildings.

I mourn the death of the late excellent Dr. Harris. I hope the remainder of his history is left so as that the public will be favored with it. I pray for the continuance of worthy Dr. Fleming. The times are not worthy of such men, but they need them the more.

Things are with us in a more quiet state than they have been. But it seems to me that our patriots have managed with less policy than usual. The non-importation scheme is given up with an ill grace. I knew our merchants, &c., could not hold out much longer—and therefore thought it best, when the Parliament repealed all the duties except that on tea, to put on a show of good humor, and to import every thing but that article. This would have saved appearances; whereas now, I fear we shall be thought entirely vanquished. New York throws the blame on us, and accuses this Town of treachery. That there hath been deceit among some individuals, cannot be doubted. But the Town in general has been honest, and has suffered incredibly; more, I am persuaded, than any Town on the continent. I wonder, however, they do not vindicate themselves. In short, some who have been leaders, would have been glad to have held out longer, but persons in trade were weary, and, as interest is generally their god, began to be furious. The zeal of the populace, by which they had

been restrained a great while, gradually abated, and it was impossible to prevent a general importation.

Our friends in England will be surprised at the acquittal of Capt. Preston and the soldiers. Had they been tried soon after the tragedy was acted, they could not have been saved. If they had been acquitted, I verily believe there would have been at that day, something similar to the execution of Capt. Porteous, in Edinburgh. But the passions of men soon subside. The trial was very long. The prisoners had secured the ablest and most popular counsel. In Capt. Preston's trial there was some little suspicion of unfair management in impannelling the jury, and yet people seem more satisfied with his acquittal, than with the acquittal of the soldiers—where the jury were generally spoken well of. Some reflections are cast on the court. On the whole the evidence turned out very differently from what was expected. But people out of doors think it very hard the inhabitants should be killed and no one be condemned. They are many of them uneasy and grumble—but all is quiet. There is no disposition to mobs—none are tarred or feathered!—The Commissioners are not molested—*Vindex* writes—*Philantro*¹ is about to write. The Colonies are divided and jealous of each other. The House of Representatives in the Massachusetts every session, find some new point to contend about, which they soon give up. The Council yield without contending. The K-g's sp-ch every year blusters against us, but all ends in words. The ministry threaten to take away our charter, but leave us in possession of it. If good policy has any influence, we shall make a drawn battle of it. You will attempt nothing against us—we shall attempt nothing against you. I could wish mutual harmony and confidence might once more return—but this is too much to expect in our day—jealousies and suspicions will subsist, till - - -

We daily look for war. We are at a loss which is best—peace or war. Peace is in itself desirable—but war hath

¹ *Vindex*, supposed to be Mr. Samuel Adams.

Philanthrop, supposed to be Jonathan Sewall, Esq., Attorney General, Judge of the Admiralty.—*Note by Hollis.*

sometimes happy effects. Whatever comes, may Heaven grant you many serene and happy days!

I am, Sir, with the most sincere regard, your obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

Tho. Hollis, Esq.

I have at length met with a New England sixpence, which is inclosed. I shall watch for the other pieces. If they are to be had in the country I shall procure them. But I have not hitherto met with any one who has seen them.

A. E.



Boston, April 25, 1771.

Some things in this Oration¹ are well said, particularly with relation to standing armies, which seem quite inconsistent with the British constitution. Perhaps it might be as well not to dispute in such strong terms, the *legal right* of Parliament. This is a point that cannot easily be settled, and had therefore best be touched very gently. It cannot be supposed that the Parliament will give up their right of taxation in express terms, it will be prudence for them never again to exercise it. If the Colonies dispute their right of legislation, which hath been always submitted to, particularly with respect to the regulation of trade, it may raise a new ferment, and may create suspicions that nothing will satisfy but absolute independence. At present things are very quiet.

A. E.



The *Complete View of Episcopacy*,² is a work of great labor. It was proposed for subscription more than thirty years ago. There was not zeal enough at that time against Episcopacy, to carry it through. The Doctor writes with

¹ By James Lovell, A. M., delivered April 2, 1771, to commemorate the bloody tragedy of March 5, 1770.

² By Charles Chauncy, D. D., Boston, 1771.

solidity and judgment. It is very probable Dr. Chandler will attack this performance. This Episcopal champion, it is said, will soon publish a reply to Dr. Chauncy's last piece against an Episcopate in America, which was formerly sent to Mr. Hollis.

Things are at present very quiet—our political heats have subsided. The Governor and House of Representatives have their altercations, and send messages to each other—there the dispute ends. People are jealous and watchful, but seem averse to tumults and riots.

A. E.

Boston, N. E., June 19, 1771.



Boston, June 21, 1771.

DEAR SIR,

Since I closed the parcel by Capt. Hall, I have met with one of Dr. Chandler's answer to Dr. Chauncy, which is just come from New York. I thought it might not be disagreeable to you to have it as soon as possible.

Just as I sat down to write I heard of something which gives me great pain. I wrote to you by Capt. Ackworth. My letter was dated Jan. 26, 1771, in which I acknowledged the receipt of your kind favor of June 2d, 1770. I gave the parcel to one Mr. Tileston, a young gentleman passenger, who lives in my neighborhood, with a special charge to deliver it to Mr. Lever with his own hand. After the vessel was fallen down and under sail, the young gentleman took it in his head to come ashore. I immediately sent to inquire what he did with the parcel I gave him. He answered that he gave it to the Captain, who promised to deliver it with care. Capt. Ackworth is since returned, and my son, whom I sent to him, has just informed me that he remembers nothing of the parcel I sent. There was inclosed a New England sixpence, such as you desired, and which is the only one I ever saw. I shall take it as a favor if you would let me know whether you received the parcel or not. I believe the safest way is to

give what I send to the Captain, and not to trust passengers. I shall be uneasy till I hear from you.

I wrote to you June 28, 1770, and lately inclosed Mr. Lovell's Oration, in a small parcel by Capt. Symmes. All under cover to Mr. Lever.

The vessel is just upon sailing. I have only time to add, that I am,

Your most obliged friend and humble servant,

ANDREW ELIOT.

To Tho's Hollis, Esq.

NOTICE OF THE SIEUR D'AULNAY, OF ACADIE.

[From the French.]

A paper read before the Massachusetts Historical Society, at their Monthly Meeting in October, 1857, by Rev. William Jenks, D. D.

[Note. Observing in our library, a few weeks since, an account of the ancient French noble family of MENOU, the writer's attention was arrested by an unexpected allusion to New England affairs. The familiar name of Winthrop occurred in the margin of a page; and, on making inquiry, it was found that the volume had been transmitted from its author, Count Julius de Menou, through the hands of our respected President, who had referred, in a pencil note, to the passage; and that researches had been made, on behalf of the Count, by a Member of the Historical Society.

The name of D'Aulnay occupies many pages in the early history of New England. It is not intended, in this communication, to repeat them further than they are quoted in the narrative, third series; but simply to offer a plain and literal translation of the French original. Except in vol. vii. of our Collections, the family name of Menou has seldom been attached to our accounts of D'Aulnay in English. This latter name is drawn from an Estate, obtained by his father in marriage, and the branch it designates is that of the lords of Charnisay, by which name also M. D'Aulnay is often mentioned.

W. J.]

Oct. 8. 1857.

Charles de Menou,¹ chevalier, lord of Aulnay, lieutenant general and governor of Acadie and neighboring countries, in New France, married Jane Motin,² by whom he had

1, 2, 3, *Joseph, Charles, and René*, killed in war.

4, *Paul*, killed at the siege of Luxembourg, in 1684, major in the regiment of the marshal De la Ferté, his relative.

5, *Mary*, born in 1646, and received, in 1676, as canoness of the noble chapter of Pous-say. Her heraldic bearings are at the Royal Library of Paris, accompanied by a certificate of the marshals De la Ferté and De Grangey, and the dukes Du Lude and De Roque-laure, given by them as cousins of Mary de Menou.

6, 7, 8, *Jane, Renée, Anne*, nuns of La Bourdillière.

All these children of Charles de Menou were born at Port Royal, the seat of his government. It appears that a certain John Motin was, in 1474, one of the gentlemen of the King's household, and archer of the guard. (*Royal Library, French Supplement*, vol. 2343.)

Charles de Menou embarked, July 4th, 1632, for America, as lieutenant of the commander De Razilly, under

¹ Menou. This family, originally of Perche, deriving its name from a territory there, and afterward transplanted into Touraine, traces its descent regularly from the eleventh century. And it is summarily stated by different genealogists, that the House of Menou 'unites all which constitutes a true nobility, namely, antiquity, high employments, distinguished military services, and illustrious connexions.'

² With this name the lady signed her petition or declaration made to Endecott, Governor of Massachusetts, and his associates, after the death of her first husband, May 27, 1651. See *Mass. Hist. Coll. 3d. series*, vol. vii., pp. 115, 116.

orders to take possession of the country which the king of England had restored, agreeably to the Treaty of St. Germain. Razilly was one of the most distinguished officers of the French marine, who, after having served with brilliant reputation before Rochelle, had commanded an expedition against Morocco, where he had broken the chains of a large number of Christians. In 1632 he had received the title of governor of the colony which he engaged to found. The king had sent him a commission in blank, so that, in case of accident, it might be filled with the name of a person capable of performing the duty. (*Archives of foreign affairs.*) The choice of a lieutenant, therefore, in these circumstances, was of high importance. Razilly proposed Charles de Menou-d'Aulnay, who had already served under his command.

After having seized on La Hève, in Acadie, Razilly charged D'Aulnay to take possession of Port Royal, and of Pemptagoïet [sic], where the Anglo-Americans had established themselves since 1627. D'Aulnay took the fort, sent away its defenders, and gave them goods for their articles of commerce, which he sent to La Hève. He then wrote to Mr. Winthrop, governor of the English colony, that he was ordered to expel, as far as Pemaquid, all settlers who had established themselves within that limit; that such of his jurisdiction as might visit Pemptagoïet should be well received, without being permitted to proceed any further. He repelled an expedition sent against him, and returned to France, January 24th, 1633, in a vessel of the king, of which he was commander. (HUTCHINSON, *History of Massachusetts*, p. 46.—*Letter of D'AULNAY, Archives of Massach.*)

Razilly having died at La Hève in November, 1635, D'Aulnay exercised in the mean time the functions of governor, which were confirmed to him by the King. (HALLIBURTON, *History of Nova Scotia*, p. 52.) He removed the seat of his government from La Hève to Port Royal, in order to be nearer to the rival and enterprising colonies of New England, and more capable of watching over the interests of France, and of his own colony. He constructed at Port Royal, and at Pemptagoïet [Penobscot in the margin] fortresses which, as well as all Acadie, were

maintained in the power of France as long as D'Aulnay lived.

Louis XIII. wrote to D'Aulnay, February 10th, 1638, from St. Germain-en-Laye, a letter establishing the limits of his command.¹ It is signed, Louis, and lower down, Bouthillier, and addressed to M. D'Aulnay-Charnisay, commanding the forts of La Hève, Port Royal, Pemptagoïet, and coasts of the Etchemins in New France. (*Archives of the marine.*) By another dispatch, of the 13th of February, 1641, His Majesty announced to him the express order given to the Sieur de la Tour² to embark without

¹ Charlevoix remarks respecting this division: 'All that the English had taken from us in Acadie, and the neighboring coast, having been restored in 1632, this part of New France was divided into three provinces; the government and property of which were granted to the Commander Razilly, young La Tour, and M. Denys. The first had for his portion Port Royal, and the territory south of it as far as New England; the second had Acadie, properly so called; and the third had the eastern coast of Canada, from Camceaux [Canso] as far as Gaspé.' Vol. i. p. 410.

² This individual occupies even a larger space than his rival in the early history of our New England settlements. And although in the present memorial of D'Aulnay no mention is made of him before, yet he had been longer on American ground, and more deeply interested in the territory of Acadie and its neighborhood, (as was his father before him,) than D'Aulnay himself. Charlevoix, who is not quoted by Count Julius de Menou in his 'Preuves,' acquaints us with much that is essential to the historical narrative of the facts of those times, although in part unfavorable to the memory of D'Aulnay. Haliburton, in his Account of Nova Scotia, and Bancroft, in his History of the United States, have made great use of this historian, as did both Hutchinson and Dr. Holmes previously. For aught that appears, he is deserving of confidence; and it is to the praise of his candor and impartiality, that, though a Jesuit, he yet treats La Tour, notwithstanding his apparent leaning toward Protestantism, which indeed commended him and his cause to our Puritan forefathers, with so much of not mere lenity, but even commendation.

He states, that, 'after the French had been driven from Acadie, and all the southern part of New France, in 1613, by the English, [under Sir Samuel Argall,] they made no effort, at that period, to recover the country; and that, although it had been abandoned, as soon as it had been invaded and taken, and M. de Poutrincourt, who visited it the year after, found in it none to resist him, and the few inhabitants who were left were sufficiently at ease; yet the mortification of seeing all his labors ruined, and the fear, that, if he began to build up Port Royal again, the English might come and dislodge him, induced him to renounce the enterprise altogether.

'But, after a few years, the Court of London seemed awake to the value of the country, and, in 1621, King James presented it to Earl Stirling, who, nevertheless, gained but little from a grant so considerable. The French were therefore left there in tranquillity, until the war respecting Rochelle. Then the English seized on all the several posts, with the exception of Cape Sable, the southernmost point of Acadie, which a gentleman, named La Tour, still maintained with great honor.'

Charlevoix then relates what he terms in the margin 'a noble action of the Sieur de la Tour,' and says, 'His father was in London during the siege of Ro-

delay and appear before Him; should he not obey, His Majesty ordered D'Aulnay to seize the person of the said La Tour, take an inventory of his effects, and intrust the forts he had held to persons who were faithful and well disposed to the service of the King. Signed, Louis, and below, Bouthillier. (*Archives of the marine, Official Memoirs*, vol. v. p. 123.)

On the 27th of February, 1641, a meeting was held at Paris of stockholders in the special Company of New France, in which the cardinal De Richelieu was interested for a sixth part. It was at that time declared, that, for the six years past, D'Aulnay had often exposed his life in taking and defending forts against the English; and, in con-

selle, though I know not why, and had there married one of the Queen's maids of honor. As a consequence of this, he became a Knight of the Garter; and, whether he had already made engagements with the Court in prejudice of his duty, or that his new dignity required them, certain it is, that he promised the King of Great Britain to put the English in possession of the post his son occupied in Acadie. On this assurance two ships of war were assigned him, in one of which he embarked with his new spouse.

'Arrived in view of Cape Sable, he left the ship, and went to his son, alone. To him he displayed the credit he had acquired at the Court of London, and the advantages that might accrue from it. He added, that it depended on his son only to obtain as great; that he was empowered to offer him the Order of the Garter, and to confirm him in his government, if he would declare for His Britannic Majesty. The young commander was equally surprised and shocked at this proposal, and plainly told his father, that he had deceived himself if he supposed his son capable of delivering up his post to the enemies of the State; that he would preserve it for the King his Master as long as he had a breath of life; that he highly appreciated the honor which the King of England seemed ready to confer on him, but would not purchase it at the price of treason; that the Prince whom he served was sufficiently powerful to reward him in such manner as to compensate his refusal of the offers made him; and that, in all events, his conscious fidelity would be a reward.

'The father, on receiving an answer so unexpected, returned on board the ship, whence he wrote, the next day, to his son, in terms most tender and pressing, but to no effect. Finally, he informed him that it was in his power to obtain by force what his entreaties had failed to procure; that, when he had disembarked his troops, repentance for rejecting these offered benefits would come too late; and he counselled him, as his father, not to oblige him to treat a son as an enemy.

'These threats were as useless as the solicitations and promises had been. La Tour, the father, prepared now to execute them; and the English, having made their approaches, the young commander defended himself so well that, at the end of two days, the English general, who had expected no resistance whatever, and had already lost several of his best soldiers, judged proper to desist from obstinately continuing the siege. This he told La Tour, the father, who was greatly embarrassed. For he dared not return to England, much less to France; and the only remaining course was, to seek the clemency of his son.

'He opened the subject to his wife, and told her, that he had felt assured he could make her happy in America; but since his ill fortune had overturned his

sideration of his services, they assigned to him the portion of a seventh, which was accepted in his name by his father, René de Menou.¹ This resolution, contained in an act passed in presence of Beaufort and his colleague, notaries at the Castle, makes mention of the generosity, experience and good conduct of D'Aulnay.

The cardinal's share was intrusted to D'Aulnay, to dispose of it 'as he judged fit, in order to sustain a seminary for the natives, and to advance the glory of God in New France, agreeably to the intentions of His Eminence.' This act was passed at Paris, February 9th, 1642, in presence of Chappelain and Plâtrier, notaries. D'Aulnay, who had come to Paris on the affairs of his government, ac-

prospects, he could not require her to live discontented there, but gave her full liberty to return to her family. The lady replied that she had not married her husband to desert him; that wherever he chose to conduct her, and in whatever situation he might be, she would always be his faithful companion, and place all her happiness in soothing his disappointments. La Tour, charmed and melted by so great generosity, applied to his son that he might be permitted to remain in Acadie.

'The young man answered that he was not willing to expose his father's head on an English scaffold; that he would willingly give him an asylum; but that he would not permit either him or his wife to enter the fort; yet that he would engage his word, that they should want for nothing. This condition appeared somewhat hard, but submission to it was needful. With allowance of the English general, the fond couple disembarked with all their effects, having two servants and two chamber-women, and the ships took their course to England. The young La Tour had a convenient house built for his father, in a fertile spot, with a pleasant prospect, not far from his fort, and assumed the care of maintaining his family. The Sieur Denys reports, in his Description of North America, that he saw them there in 1635, and that they were in good circumstances.'—*Charlevoix, Hist. de la N. Fr.*, v. i. pp. 408–10.

¹ René de Menou, knight, King's esquire, and of the council of State, and privy-councillor, was eldest son of Francis, who first took the title of lord of Charnisay, and who was ancestor of that branch—being son of René, lord of Boussay, an estate, that, for five hundred years, descended in the family from father to son.

This nobleman enjoyed much of the confidence of Richelieu, and of Louis XIII. By the death of his elder brothers he became lord of Charnisay, principal heir of both his father and mother, and guardian of his younger brothers. On the 27th of February, 1641, at a meeting of associates of the special Company of New France, he is said to have strongly supported his son, Charles de Menou-d'Aulnay, then in America; and accepted his appointment, in his behalf, March 8th, 1642. After the death of this son, he became guardian of his children, then minors; and, until the majority of the eldest of them, was intrusted by the King with the government of Acadie. On this occasion he addressed a communication, dated March 2d, 1651, to the governor and magistrates of Massachusetts. He died, May 10th, 1651, at Paris. [*Preuves*, p. 162, &c.] He had been appointed governor of the young Duke of Mayenne, was author of several military works, and of a Treatise, often reprinted, 'On the means of suppressing duelling, and banishing the vices which lead to it.'—[*Id. ibid.*]

cepted this cession, as well as that which was made to him of a portion of the rights held by the chevalier De Razilly, commodore of a squadron, from his late brother, commander in chief. This act, received at Tours, February 19th, 1642, by the notary, David, states that the donation was made on account of friendship and kindred, 'and in gratitude for the cares and labors which the said Charles de Menou had taken and suffered for the establishment, preservation and defense of Acadie, both in company with the deceased governor, De Razilly, and since his death.' A short time after, D'Aulnay purchased all the rights in Acadie, which the brothers De Razilly had possessed; and by subsequent arrangements he remained the only representative of the special Company of New France in the country; a position of importance at that time, which might have procured him a considerable fortune, had he been able to devote himself exclusively to his own affairs, and the material interests of the colony. Orders being sent him from France, requiring him to withdraw the command of fort Saint John from the Sieur De la Tour, declared a rebel by the decrees of Council, 9th of March, 1642, and 6th of March, 1644, (*Archives of the kingdom*,) D'Aulnay blockaded that fortress. La Tour applied for assistance to the Anglo-Americans of Boston. Four of their ships, equipped for war, and another from Rochelle, similarly fitted out, and manned by one hundred and forty protestants, sailed to attack D'Aulnay, who was obliged to retreat before a force so superior. He was pursued to Port Royal, where he defended himself bravely, and was enabled to drive them off after a bloody struggle. (HUBBARD, p. 482.) The death of Richelieu, who had created the colony and protected it, and the decease of Louis XIII., which placed France in the hands of a regency, reduced D'Aulnay to his personal resources for executing the King's orders. His expenditures had then arisen to 20,000 livres a month. (HAZARD, vol. i. p. 498.) Nevertheless, in avoiding all acts of direct hostility, he knew how, by his firmness and energy, to make himself respected by the Anglo-Americans; it is even recorded that he made himself dreaded by them. (HUBBARD, p. 487; HUTCHINSON, p. 133.) The conduct of the governor was the subject of a public protest on the

part of many of the most distinguished inhabitants of the country; and among them of Sir Richard Saltonstall (HAZARD, vol. i. p. 502; HUBBARD, p. 480; HUTCHINSON, p. 130); and an act of the General Commissioners of the Confederation interdicted the governors from permitting volunteers to go out armed against any foreign people, without express authority from the said general Commissioners. (HUBBARD, vol. ii. p. 21.)

A treaty, signed at Boston, October 8th, 1644, by one whom D'Aulnay furnished with competent powers, put an end to various negotiations, and neutralized the course which La Tour continued to pursue in the country. (HUBBARD, p. 487.) D'Aulnay besieged fort St. John, carried it by assault in April, 1645, and appointed a new commander. The garrison consisted of many English and other strangers. Some were pardoned, and others suffered the penalty of their rebellion. (*Report of the Provost; Archives of the Marine.*) An official letter of the queen, Anne of Austria, to D'Aulnay (Sept. 27, 1645) eulogizes his valor and his fidelity. (*Archives of foreign affairs.*) A letter of Louis XIV. is conceived in terms still more flattering, and announces to him that, 'in order to testify how much the courage and loyalty he had exhibited were appreciated by the King, he would send him as soon as possible a vessel fitted out completely,' &c. Signed, Louis, and beneath, De Lomenie. (*Ibid.*) [In the margin, Brienne.]

The people of Massachusetts still kept up intelligence with La Tour. D'Aulnay, in reprisal, seized their vessels, and received their protests with a spirit which Hubbard qualifies with the name of haughtiness. (P. 493, 494; HUTCHINSON, p. 135.) His firmness met success: the General Commissioners then ratified the convention of 1644. (*Id.* 493.) He was apprised by letter, that the lieutenant-governor of Massachusetts [Dudley, in the margin], with major Dennison [sic] would soon visit him, with others. D'Aulnay preferred negotiating at Boston, and sent thither a person fully empowered, together with M. Louis, his secretary. A species of Report, extracted from the archives of Massachusetts, describes the manner in which they were treated. Hubbard, who was present, says: 'Their dismissal was as honorable as their reception, and

accompanied with all the respect that New England could manifest toward the lieutenant general of the King of France in Acadie.' (P. 496.) The governor sent to D'Aulnay, as a present, a rich travelling sedan, which had been made for the viceroy of Mexico, but was taken by an Anglo-American privateer. (*Ibid.* HUTCHINSON, p. 135.)

By letters-patent, dated February, 1647, Louis XIV. conferred on D'Aulnay the perpetual government of the country he had so well defended. In these it is declared, that it was in acknowledgment of his good and faithful services, and in order that a work so far advanced should, for the honor and dignity of the crown, be carried to perfection; that D'Aulnay had constructed four forts, had furnished them with sixty pieces of cannon, a sufficient number of men at arms, and all other things necessary; the whole at his own cost, with a vast expenditure, for which he had been obliged to contract loans; the condition of his own finances not having allowed the King to give assistance as he had desired. The letters-patent gave him power to do all that should be necessary for the conquest, peopling and preservation of the country, and all the King might do, were he there in person; they granted him the trade in furs, the lands, the mines of gold, silver, copper and other metals, and all these things for himself, his heirs, successors and assigns, on condition of doing homage for them to the King, in person or by a deputy. (*Archives of the Marine.*)

By papers which are preserved at the offices of the marine and of foreign affairs, many of which are from the hands of persons commissioned for the government of Acadie, it appears that D'Aulnay had expended more than 800,000 livres for the *advancement* of the colony, and that he had made great improvements there. Under his administration it enjoyed a profound calm and a growing prosperity, when he was taken away by death, on the 24th of May, 1650. On the day after, they solemnly buried him, in presence of all the officers, soldiers and inhabitants of Port Royal, on the right side in the nave of the church he had caused to be built, and where already one of his children had been laid. (*Letter from the chief missionary of Acadie.*) This ecclesiastic, during the eleven years of his

abode in Acadie, had never heard D'Aulnay speak to the disadvantage of any individual.¹ He mentions D'Aulnay's uncommon charity and exemplary piety. (*Same letter*, dated at Paris, August 6th, 1653, three years after D'Aulnay's death.) The Anglo-Americans have represented him as a brave officer, experienced in command, and prudent, and as a true gentleman, of a generous character, and valuing a good reputation more than pecuniary gain. His own letters exhibit him to us as full of energy and of love for France. (HAZARD, vol. i. p. 498; HUBBARD, 491, 493, 494. *Letters found in the archives of Boston.*)

After the death of D'Aulnay, La Tour made his appearance again in Acadie. There Le Borgne was seen also, Simon and Nicholas Denys, and others, furiously resolved on despoiling the minor children of D'Aulnay of their hereditary claims on Acadie, which Louis XIV. had declared to belong to them. (*Letters patent of 1651, 1652, Archives of foreign affairs.*) In 1654, fort St. John and Port Royal were surrendered to five hundred Anglo-Americans, who, in the midst of the confusion, took possession of Acadie; and La Tour proceeded to England, to solicit from Cromwell the confirmation of those concessions which Sir W. Alexander had made him in 1630. (HUTCHINSON, vol. i. pp. 61, 63. *State paper office at London.*) Finally, the country reverted to England, and forms at present two important colonies, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. At Port Royal, now called Annapolis, may still be seen the fort constructed by D'Aulnay.

Preuves de l'Histoire de la Maison de Menou. 4to. Paris, 1852; pp. 165-9.

¹ It is pleasant, indeed, to read a testimony so honorable as this. But the truth of history requires, that the favorable representations of kindred, friends and partizans be weighed in an impartial balance. It can, indeed, be argued, that the religious prejudices and manners of the age, and the recent war with the Huguenots, issuing in the siege and capture of Rochelle, form an apology for the severities which have been noticed.

PETITION OF ROGER WILLIAMS TO THE
GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

THIS paper is printed from the original petition. There is no date to it, but in it the period is stated to be subsequent to "the late grant obtained by Mr. Coddington for Rhode Island." Mr. Coddington returned from England in 1651, bringing with him this grant; and as the agent of the two towns of Providence and Warwick, Roger Williams, the same year, went to England. Gammell, in his Life of Williams, p. 143, states, that he joined John Clarke in Boston, "where they embarked together in November, 1651." This is probably the date of the petition.

R. F., JR.

*To y^e honoured Generall Court of the Massachuset Colonie
now assembled at Boston.*

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF ROGER WILLIAMS.

Although it be true y^t it pleased this honoured Gov^rment, now many Years since, to pass a sentence of Banishm^t vpon me, w^{ch} sentence and y^e Consequences (bitter Afflictions and miseries, Losses, Sorrowes and Hardships) I haue humbly desired (through y^e help of y^e most High) to endure with a quiet and patient mind;

Yet, may it please you fauourably to remember, y^t at my Last Arrivall from my Natiue Countrey, I presented this honoured Gov^rm^t with Letters from many of yo^r noble & hon^{ble} Friends, then of y^e parliam^t of England, Lamenting Differences & perswading Moderation, if not Reconcilem^t & pacification.

Please you to remember y^t euer since y^e time of my Exile I have bene (through God's helpe) a professed & known servant to this Colonie & all y^e Colonies of y^e English in peace & war, so y^t scarce a weeke hath passed but some

way or other I haue bene used as instrumentall to y^e peace & spreading of the English plantings in this Countrey:

In the Pequet Troubles, receaving Letters from this Gover^t, I hazarded my life into extreme dangers, by labouring to preuent y^e Leauge between y^e Pequits & y^e Narigansets, & to worck a Leauge between the English & y^e Narigansets, w^{ch} worck, as an Agent from this Colonie and all y^e English in y^e Land, I (through helpe from God) effected. The fruit thereof (as o^r much honoured Mr. Wintrop deceased wrote to me) hath bene Peace to y^e English euer since.

At present let me not offend you in saying y^t I pass not only as a private Passenger, but as a messenger & Agent to y^e high Court of y^e Parliam^t of England, in y^e name of my neighbours, y^e English, occasioned by y^e late Graunt obtained by Mr. Coddington for Roade Iland.

In all w^{ch} respects I humbly pray, y^t (notwithstanding y^e former sentence) I may find y^t civilitie & courtesie from y^e English of y^e Massachusetts Colonie, y^t I (in offensively behaving myselfe) may inoffenciuely and without molestation, pass through yo^r Jurisdiction as a stranger for a night, to y^e ship, & so (if God so please) may land againe, from the Land of our Nativitie.

But some may say, you are an opposite to y^e way of o^r worship, and beside you goe as an Adversarie, with complainsts agst us for y^e Town of Warwick.

To y^e first, I humbly pray it may be rememberd, y^t not only I, but y^e many Millions of Millions of our Father Adam's children, (w^{ch} are as y^e sand upon y^e sea shoare) are not of yo^r perswasion, yea & many thoughtsands of y^t poore Remnant of God's children abroad, are at Lamentable difference with you & themselues as to y^e worship of God in Christ Jesus. I add, who knowes but upon humble & Christian debatem^{ts} & agitations, not only I, but yo^r honoured selues, may yet see cause to put o^r mouths in y^e dust togeather, as touching y^e present Controversies about y^e Christian wor^{pp}.

To y^e second, I humbly and truely answer, y^t if it please this honoured Court to depute 2 or 3 of yo^r selues to receaue & debate mine Answer to this objection, I hope (through God's assistance) to make it apparant, y^t I goe not as an enemie to y^e Massachusetts, but as a professed

Instrum^t of a peaceable & hon^{ble} end of y^t sad Controversie,
& as an humble servant, rather than an Enemie, to this
honoured Gov^ement of y^e Massachusetts.

I am unworthy, yet desire to be Yo^r humble servant,

ROGER WILLIAMS.

The depu^{ts} thinke meete to graunte this pe^t, viz^t, liberty
to Mr. Williams to pass through o^r jurisdiction to England,
p. videdd he carry himselfe in offenciue^{ly} accordinge to
his p. mise wth reference to the consent of o^r honour^d
magis(trates.)

WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric.*

For the honourd Gen. Court these.

A DECLARATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE ENGLISH PEOPLE THAT FIRST INHABITED NEW ENGLAND. BY PHINEHAS PRATT.

PHINEHAS PRATT was one of a company of about sixty, who were sent to Massachusetts to found a Colony by Thomas Weston, a London merchant, who was first a friend, and then a rival, of the Plymouth Colony. His patent is not known to be extant.

Pratt, with nine others, sailed from England in the Sparrow, which arrived at Damariscove Islands, in May, 1622. Here he, with others, left the vessel, in a shallop, and, after touching at several places on the coast, landed, in the latter part of May, at Plymouth. About the first of July, the Charity and the Swan, two other vessels sent out by Weston, also arrived; and subsequently a party left Plymouth in the Swan, and commenced the settlement at Wessaguscus, in the present town of Weymouth. Pratt was one of this company.

The head man of this Colony was Richard Greene, a brother-in-law of Weston; but he, dying on a subsequent visit to Plymouth, was succeeded by John Sanders. These settlers began "with little provision." "They neither applied themselves to planting of corn, nor taking of fish, more than for their present use; but went about to build castles in the air, and making of forts, neglecting the plentiful time of fishing. When winter came, their forts would not keep out hunger, and they, having no provision before hand, and wanting both powder and shot, to kill deer and fowl, many were starved to death, and the rest hardly escaped."¹

The survivors of this Colony were then really in the power of the natives; and they were indebted to the courage, adroitness and endurance of Phinehas Pratt, for their deliverance and their lives. In the winter of 1623, the Indians matured a plan to cut off the English, both at Wessaguscus and Plymouth, in one day. Pratt, then about thirty-two years of age, had seen some of his companions die of starvation; and learning, in his intercourse with the Indians, of this scheme of massacre for the rest, resolved to send intelligence of it to Plymouth. When all refused to go, he determined to go himself; and by deceiving the savages, effected his escape. Though closely pursued, and suffering much in body and mind, he made good his way to Plymouth, which he reached on the 24th of March, 1623. His story corresponded with intelligence already received from Massasoit;² and hence Standish and his party, on the next day, started on the expedition which resulted in inflicting on Pecksuot and Wittewamut the doom which they had in store for the English, and in saving the remnant of the Colony.

Pratt was too much exhausted to accompany Standish. On regaining strength, he went to Piscataqua, and was in skirmishes with the natives at Agawam and at Dorchester. Hence he sums up his early perils by saying: "Three times we fought with them; thirty miles I was pursued for my life, in a time of frost and snow, as a deer chased by wolves."

¹ Levett, "Voyage into New-England, begun in 1623, and ended in 1624," printed in London in 1628. Chapt. 5.

² Deane's Bradford, p. 131.

Pratt settled at Plymouth, and is termed "a joiner." In 1630, he married a daughter of Cuthbert Cuthberston,¹ or Godbert Godberston;² and his name, as inhabitant, occurs in the records as a freeman, rate payer, and grantee of lands, for many years. He is classed with the "Old Comers," and "Purchasers." Among the references to Pratt, is the following singular memorandum:—

"The fift of Novemb^r 1644. Memorand: that Thomas Bunting, dwelling wth Phineas Pratt, bath, wth and by the consent of the said Phineas, put himself as a servant to dwell wth John Cooke, Juni^r from the fifteenth day of this instant Novemb^r for and during the terme of eight yeares now next ensuing, and fully to be compleate and ended, the said John Cooke fynding vnto his said servant meate, drink, and apparell during the said terme, and in thend thereof double to apparell him throughout, and to pay him twelue bushells of Indian corne, the said John Cooke haueing payd the said Phineas for him one melch cowe, valued at V^{li}, and fourty shillings in money, and is to lead the said Phineas two loads of hey yearly during the terme of seauen yeares now next ensuing."³

The same records have the following grant, under the date of June 5, 1658:—"Liberty was granted by the Court, unto Phinehas Pratt, or any for him, to look out a parcel or tract of land to accommodate him and his posterity withal, together with other freemen or alone, as he shall think meet, and to make report of the same unto the Court, that so a considerable proportion thereof may be confirmed unto him."⁴

Before this date, Pratt left Plymouth. In 1648, he purchased the place in Charlestown, on which probably he subsequently lived and died. In 1658, his name appears, with other inhabitants, in a division of lands. Four years later, in 1662, he presented to the General Court of Massachusetts what he terms "An History," called "A Declaration of the Affairs of the English People that first inhabited New England." Under the date of May 7, is the following record: "In answer to the petition of Phinehas Pratt, of Charlestown, who presented this Court with a narrative of the straits and hardships that the first planters of this Colony underwent, in their endeavors to plant themselves at Plymouth and since, whereof he was one, the Court judge it meet to grant him three hundred acres of land, where it is to be had, not hindering a plantation." This land was laid out "in the wilderness, on the East of Merrimack River, near the upper end of Nacooke Brook."

In October, 1668, Pratt, then nearly eighty, presented another petition to the General Court, in which he states that he "was the remainder of the forlorn hope of sixty men;" that he was now lame; and he requested aid "that might be for his subsistence the remaining time of his life." The Court refused to grant his petition. The Charlestown records, a few months later, show the following charitable record, January 25, 1668/9: "Ordered constable Jno. Hayman to supply Phineas Pratt with so much as his present low condition may require."

At this time Pratt was regarded with uncommon interest. Winslow's Relation, which had been in print over forty years, referred to him as one of Weston's men, who came to Plymouth "with his pack on his back," and "made a pitiful narration of their lamentable and weak estate and of the Indian carriages,"⁵; Morton's Memorial, printed in 1669, stated that Pratt had "penned the particulars of his perilous journey and some other things relating to this tragedy" of Weston's Colony;⁶ Hubbard, in 1677, states his service, and also that he was then living;⁷ and a comparison of the "Declaration" now first printed, with Increase Mather's "Relation of the Troubles," &c., printed in 1677, shows, that the "Old Planter yet living in this country," who is referred to and whose relation is there given at length, was Phinehas Pratt.⁸

¹ Collections, 2d Series, vii., p. 122.

² Plymouth Records, Vol. i., p. 159.

³ Plymouth Records, Vol. ii., p. 78.

⁴ *Ib.*, Vol. iii., p. 145.

⁵ Young's Winslow, p. 332. ⁶ Morton Memorial, p. 90. ⁷ Hubbard, History, p. 78.

⁸ Mather's Relation, p. 17.

Pratt's will is dated January 8, 1677, in which he is styled "Joiner." He bequeaths a small estate, invoiced at £40. 16s. 0d., to his wife Mary, and son Joseph. He died in Charlestown, April 19, 1680, where he was buried. A pious hand raised an ornamental tomb-stone over his remains, which is still in good preservation, in the Old Burying Ground. On the right hand of a common centre design, is the figure of a spade and pickaxe crossed, and on the left hand a coffin and cross bones. The following is the inscription, which I copied, March 26, 1858.

FUGIT HORA.

HERE LIES Y^e BODY OF PHINEHAS
 PRATT AG^d ABOUT 90 Y^{rs.} DEC^d APRIL
 Y^e 19 1 6 80
 & WAS ON OF Y^e FIRST ENGLISH
 INHABITANTS OF Y^e MASSACHUSETTS COLONY.

The manuscript of Pratt's "Declaration," presented in 1662 to the Massachusetts General Court, and now printed for the first time, consists of three folio sheets, sewn together, one half of which appear to have been torn off after they were thus arranged. Hence a portion is lost. The MS. is torn at the edges, and portions of the writing are obliterated. It is printed as it is written, except as to punctuation, and where this required capital letters. Pratt's Petition of 1668, is also printed for the first time. To these papers is added Increase Mather's version of Pratt's "Relation," printed in 1677. R. F., JR.

A DECLARATION OF THE AFFAIRES OF THE EINGLISH
 PEOPLE [THAT FIRST] INHABITED NEW EINGLAND.

In the Time of Sperituall darkness, when y^e State Ecclesiasti Roome Ruled & ouer Ruled most of the Nations of Vrope, it plea to giue wisdom to many, kings and people, in breaking y^t sperituall yo ; yet, not wth standing, there Arose great strif Among such people y^t ar knowne by the name of prodastonce, in many Cases Concerning y^e worship of God ; but y^e greatest & strongest number of men Comonly pvaled Against the smaller and leser Number. At this time the honored States of Holland gave moore Liberty in Casses of Relidgon yⁿ could be enjoyed in some other places. Upon wich diuers good Cristians Remoued the dwellings into y^e Low Cuntrys.

Yⁿ on Company y^t Dwelt in the Sitty of Laydon, being not well Able outwardly to subsist, tooke Counsell & Agred to Remoue into Amerika, into some port Northward of Verginia. Y^e Duch people ofored y^m diuers Condishons to suply y^m wth things Nesasary if thay would Liuc vndor y^e Gouverment of thay^r State, but thay Refused it. This thay did y^t all men might know the Intier Loue thay bore to thay^r King & Cuntry; for in y^m ther was never found any lack of Lifill obedience. Thay sent to thay^r ffreinds in Eingland to Let them Vnderstand what thay intended to doe. Then diuers ffr Disbursed some monys for y^e fferthering of soe good a work.

It is ff to be understod y^t, in the yeare 1618, ther apeared a blasing star ouer Garmany y^t maed y^e wiss men of Vrope astonished thay^r

Spedily after, near about y^t time, these people begun to propoes Remouall. Thay Agred y^t thay^r strongest & Ablest men should goe to provid for thay^r Wiffs & children. Yⁿ Coming into Eingland, they sett fforward in to ships, but thay^r Leser ship sprung a leak & reterned Eingland; y^e bigger ship Ariued att Cape Codd, 1620 it being winter, then Caled new Eingland but formerly Caled Canidy. They sent forth thay^r boat vpon discouery. Thay^r boat being Reterned to they^r Shipp, thay Remoued into y^e bay of Plimoth & begun they^r planta . . . by the Riuer of Petuxet. Thay^r Shipp being reterned & safly Arived in Eingland, those Gentlemen & Marchents, y^t had vnder-taken to suply y^m wth things nesasary, vnderstanding y^t many of y^m weare sick & some ded, maed hast to send a ship wth many things nesasery; but som Indescret men, hoping to incoridg thay^r freinds to Come to y^m, writ Letters Conserving y^e great plenty of ffish fowle and deare, not considering y^t y^e wild Salvages weare many times hungrye, y^t haue a better scill to catch such things then English men haue. The Adventvrers, willing to saf thay^r Monys, sent them weekly provided of vicktûalls, as Many moor after y^m did the lyke; & y^t was y^e great Cause of famine.

At the same time, Mr. Thomas Westorne, a Merchant of good credit in London, y^t was yⁿ thay^r treshurer, y^t had disberst much of his Mony for y^e good of New Eingland, sent forth a ship for y^e settleing a plantation in the Massa-

chusetts Bay, but wanting a pilote we Ariued att Damoralls Cove. The men y^t belong to y^e ship, ther fishing, had newly set up a may pole & weare very mery. We maed hast to prepare a boat fit for costing. Then said Mr. Rodgers, Master of our ship, "heare ar Many ships & at Munhigin, but no man y^t does vndertake to be yo^r pilate; for they say y^t an Indian Caled Rumhigin vnder-took to pilot a boat to Plimoth, but thay all lost tha^r Lives." Then said Mr. Gibbs, Mast^{rs} Mate of our ship, "I will venter my Liue wth y^m." At this Time of our discouery, we first Ariued att Smithe's Ilands, first soe Caled by Capt. Smith, att the Time of his discouery of New Eingland, . . . fterwards Caled Ilands of Sholes; ffrom thence to Cape Ann . . . so Caled by Capt Mason; from thence to y^e Mathechusits Bay.¹ Ther we continued 4 or 5 days.

Then we pseaued, y^t on the south part of the Bay, weare fewest of the natives of the Cuntry Dwelling ther. We thought best to begine our plantation, but fearing A great Company of Salvages, we being but 10 men, thought it best to see if our friends weare Living at Plimoth. Then sayling Along the Cost, not knowing the harbor, thay shot of a peece of Ardinance, and at our coming Ashore, thay entertaned vs wth 3 vally of shotts. They^r seckond ship was Reterned for Eingland before we Came to y^m. We asked y^m wheare the Rest of our freinds weare y^t came in the first ship. Thay said y^t God had taken y^m Away by deth, & y^t before thay^r seckond ship came, thay weare soe destresed with sicknes y^t thay, feareing the salvages should know it, had sett up thay^r sick men with thay^r muscits vpon thay^r Rests & thay^r backs Leaning Aganst trees. At this Time, on or two of them went wth vs in our vesill to y^e place of ffishing to bye vicktuals. 8 or 9 weeks after this, to of our ships² Arived att Plimoth—the leser of our 3 ships

¹ They arrived in May, 1622. *Winslow's Relation in Young*, p. 293, gives the name of the ship—"a fishing ship called the Sparrow;" Bradford supplies the date "about the latter end of May." *Deane's Bradford*, p. 114.

² These ships were the Charity, of one hundred tons, and the Swan, of thirty tons. "In the end of June, or beginning of July, came into our harbor two ships of master Weston's aforesaid; the one called the Charity, the other the Swan; having in them some fifty or sixty men, sent over at his own charge to plant for

continued in the Cuntry with vs. Then we maed hast to settle our plantation in the Masachusets bay—our Number being neare sixty men. Att the same time ther was a great plag Among the salvagis, &, as y^m selfs told vs, half thay^r people died thereof. The Natus caled the place of our plantation Wesaguscasit. Neare vnto it is a towne of Later Time Caled Weymoth.

The Salvagis seemed to be good freinds with vs while they feared vs, but when they see famin prevall, they begun to insult, as apeareth by the seaquell; for on of thay^r Pennesses or Chef men, Caled Pexsouth, implied himself to Learne to speek Einglish, obsarving all things for his bloody ends. He told me he Loued Einglish men very well, but he Loued me best of all. Then he said, “you say fFrench men doe not loue you, but I will tell you what wee have don to y^m. Ther was a ship broken by a storm. Thay saued most of they^r goods & hid it in the Ground. We maed y^m tell us whear it was. Yⁿ we maed y^m our sarvants. Thay weept much. When we parted them, we gaue y^m such meat as our dogs eate. On of y^m had a Booke he would ofen Reed in. We Asked him “what his Booke said.” He answered, “It saith, ther will a people, lick French men, com into this Cuntry and driue you all a way, & now we thincke you ar thay. We took Away thay^r Clothes. Thay liued but a little while. On of them Liued Longer than the Rest, for he had a good master & gaue him a wiff. He is now ded, but hath a sonn Alive. An other Ship Came into the bay wth much goods to Trucke, yⁿ I said to the Sacham, I will tell you how you shall haue all for nothing. Bring all our Canows & all our Beauer & a great many men, but no bow nor Arow Clubs, nor Hachits, but knives vnder y^e scins y^t About our Lines. Throw vp much Beauer vpon thay^r Deck; sell it very Cheep & when I giue the word, thrust yo^r knives in the French mens Bellys. Thus we killed y^m all. But Mounsear Ffinch, Master of thay^r ship, being wounded, Leped into y^e hold.

him.” The Charity sailed with passengers for Virginia. *Winslow's Relation in Young*, p. 296. Bradford describes the generous manner with which Weston's men were treated at Plymouth. *Deane's Bradford*, p. 124, where, and in the notes, will be found ample materials relating to Weston's Plantation.

We bidd him com vp, but he would not. Then we cutt thay^r Cable & y^e ship went Ashore & lay vpon her sid & slept ther. Ffinch Came vp & we killed him. Then our Sachem devided thay^r goods & ffiered they^r Ship & it maed a very great fier.”¹ Som of our Company Asked y^m “how long it was Agow sinc thay first see ships? Thay said thay could not tell, but thay had heard men say y^e first ship y^t thay see, seemed to be a floting Iland, as thay suposed broken of from the maine Land, wrapt together wth the roats of Trees, with some trees upon it. Thay went to it with thay^r Canows, but seeing men & hearing guns, thay maed hast to be gon.

But after this, when thay saw ffamin prevale, Peckworth said, “why doe yo^r men & yo^r dogs dy?” I said, “I had Corn for a Time of need. Yⁿ I filed a Chest, but not with Corne & spred Corn on. him Com opened the Couer and when I was shure he see it, I put dow as if I would not haue him see it.” Then he said “No Indian Soe. You haue much Corne & Einglish men dye for want.” Then thay h intent to make warr thay Remoued some of thay^r howses to th a great swamp neare to the pale of our plantation. After this yer. . . . a morning I see a man goeing into on of thay^r howses, weary with trafelling & Galded on his feet. Yⁿ I said to Mr. Salsbery, our Chirurgeon, shurly thay^r Sacham hath implied him for som intent to make war vpon vs. Then I took a Bagg wth gunpowder and putt it in my pockitt, wth the Top of the bagg hanging out, & went to y^e house whear the man was laid vpon a matt. The woman of the howse took hold of the bagg, saying, what is this soe bigg? I said it is good for Salvagis to eat, and strock hur on the Arm as hard as I could. Then she said, Matchet powder Einglish men, much Matchit. By and by Abordicis bring Mouch Mans, Mouch Sannups, & kill you & all Einglish men att Wessa-guscus & Patuckset. The man y^t lay upon y^e mats, seeing this, was Angry and in a great Rage, and the woman seemed to be sore afraid. Yⁿ I went out of the howse,

¹ “New English Canaan,” by Thomas Morton, printed in 1632, states that this ship was “then riding at anchor by an island then called Peddock’s Island;” and that there were five Frenchmen. Chap. iii.

and said to a young man y^t could best vnderstand thay^r Langwig, goe Aske y^e woman, but not in y^e man's hearing, why the man was Agry, & shee Afraid? Our interpreter, Coming to me, said, "these are the words of the woman—y^e man will . . . Abordicis what I said & he & all Indians will be angry with me. . . . This Peexworth said, "I love you." I said "I loue you." I said "I loue you as well as you Loue me." Then he said, in broken Einglish, "me heare you can make the Lickness of men & of women, dogs & dears, in wood & stone. Can you make" I said, "I can see a kniue in yo^r hand, wth an Ill favored ffase upon the haft." Then he gave it into my hand to see his workmanship, & said, "this kniue cannot see, it Can not heare, it Can not spek, but by & by it can eat. I haue Another kniue at home wth a fase upon the haft as lick a man as this is lick a woman. Y^t kniue Can not see, it Can not heare, it Can not speke, but it can eat. It hath killed much, ffrench men, & by & by this kniue & y^t kniue shall mary¹ & you shall be thear. . . . kniue at home he had kep for a moniment, from the tim they had killed Mounsear Ffinch;" but as the word went out of his mouth, I had a good will to thrust it in his belly. He said, "I see you ar much angry." I said, "Guns ar Longer then knius."

Som tim after this tha^r Sacham Cam sudingly upon us wth a great numbor of Armed men; but thay^r spys seeing us in a Redines, he & some of his Chif men, terned into on of tha^r howses a quartor of An our. Then wee met them wthout the pale of our plantation & brought them in. Then said I to a yong man y^t could best speke thay^r Langwig, "Aske Pexworth whi thay com thus Armed." He Answered, "our Sacham is angry wth you." I said, "Tell him if he be Angry wth us, wee be Angry wth him." Yⁿ said thay^r Sachem, "Einglish men, when you Com into y^e Cuntry, we gave you gifts and you gaue vs gifts; we bought and sold wth you and we weare freinds; and now tell me if I or any of my men have don you Rong." We answered, "First tell us if we have don you Any Rong."

¹ Some of this conversation, in the same words, may be found in Winslow's "Good News from New England," &c., printed in London in 1624. See reprint of this book in Young's *Chronicle of the Pilgrims*, p. 338.

He answered, "Some of you steele our Corne & I have sent you word times without number & yet our Corne is stole. I come to see what you will doe." We answered, "It is on man wich hath don it. Yo^r men have seen vs whip him divers times, besides other manor of punishments, & now heare he is Bound. We give him vnto you to doe wth him what you please." He answered, "y^t is not just dealeing. If my men wrong my nabur sacham, or his men, he sends me word & I beat or kill my men, acording to the ofenc. If his men wrong me or my men, I send him word & he beats or kills his men Acording to the ofence. All Sachams do Justis by thay^r own men. If not we say they ar all Agreed & then we ffite, & now I say you all steele my Corne."

At this Time som of them, seeing som of our men upon our forte, begun to start, saying, "Machit Pesconk," that is nawty Guns. Then Looking Round about them went a way in a great Rage. Att this Time we strenthened our wach untell we had no ffood left. In thes times the Salvagis ofentime did Crep upon the snow, starting behind Boushes & trees to see whether we kepe wach or not times I haveing Rounded our plantation untell I had no longer nth; yⁿ in the night, goeing into our Corte of Gard, I see on man ded before me & Another at my writ hand & An other att my left for want of food. O all y^e people in New Eingland y^t shall heare of these times of our week beginning, Consider what was the strenth of the Arm of flesh or the witt of man; therfor in the times of yo^r greatest distres put yo^r trust in God.

The ofendor being bound, we lett him louse, because we had no food to give him, Charging him to gather Ground Nutts, Clams, & Musells, as other men did, & steel no more. On or two days after this, the salvagis brot him, leading him by the armes, saying "Heare is the Corne. Com see the plase wheare he stole it." Then we kep him bound som few days. After this, to of our Company said "we have bin at the Sachem's howse & thay have near finished thay^r last Canoe y^t thay may incounter wth our ship. Thay^r greatest Care is how to send thay^r Army's to Plimoth because of the snow. Yⁿ we prepared to meet y^m there. On of our Company said "thay have killed on of our hogs."

An other said, "on of y^m striked (?) at me wth his knife;" & others say "they threw dust in our fases." Then said Pexworth to me, "give me powder & Gunns & I will give you much corne." I said, "by & by men bring ships & vittls." But when we understod y^t their plot was to kill all Einglish people in on day when the snow was gon, I would have sent a man to Plimoth, but non weare willing to goe. Then I said if Plimoth men know not of this Trecherous plot, they & we are all ded men; Therefore if God willing, to morrow I will goe. Y^t night a yong man, wanting witt, towld Pexworth yearly in the Morning. Pexworth came to me & said in Einglish, "Me heare you goe to Patuxit; you will loose yo^r self; y^e bears and the wolfs will eate you; but because I Love you I will send my boy Nahamit with you; & I will give you vicktuals to eat by y^e way & to be mery wth yo^r freinds when you Com there." I said; "Who towld you soe great a Lye y^t I may kill him." He said, "it is noe lye, you shall not know." Then he went whom to his howse. Then Came 5 men Armed. We said, "Why Com you thus Armed." They said, "we are ffreinds; you cary Guns wheare we dwell & we cary bowe & Arows wheare you dwell." Thes Atended me 7 or 8 days & nights. Then thay suposeing it was a lye, wheare Carlis of thay^r wach near two ours on the morning. Yⁿ said I to our Company, "now is the Time to Run to Plimoth. Is ther any Compas to be found." Thay said, "non but y^m y^t belong to y^e ship." I said "they are to Bigg. I have born no armes of Defence this 7 or 8 days. Now if I take my armes thay will mistrust me. Then thay said "Y^e salvages will pshue after you & kill you & we shall never see you Agayne." Thus wth other words of great Lamentation, we parted. Then I took a how & went to y^e Long Swamp neare by thay^r howses & diged on the ege thereof as if I had bin looking for ground nutts, but seeing no man I went in & Run through it. Then Looking Round a bout me, I Run Southward tell 3 of y^e Clock, but the snow being in many places, I was the more distressed becaus of my ffoot steps. The sonn being beclouded, I wandered, not knowing my way; but att the Goeing down of the sonn, it apeared Red; then hearing a great howling of wolfs, I came to a River; the water being depe & cold & many Rocks, I pased

through wth much adoe. Then was I in great distress—
 ffant for want of ffood, weary with Running, ffearing to
 make a ffier because of y^m y^t pshued me. Then I came to
 a depe dell or hole, ther being much wood falen into it.
 Then I said in my thoughts, this is God's providence that
 heare I may make a fier. Then haveing maed a fier, the stars
 began to a pear and I saw Ursa Magor & the pole
 yet fearing beclouded. The day following I began to
 trafell but being unable, I went back to the fier the
 day ffall sonn shined & about three of
 the clock I came to that part . . . Plimoth bay wher ther
 is a Town of Later Time Duxbery. Then passing
 by the water on my left hand . . . cam to a brock & ther
 was a path. Haveing but a short Time to Consider
 ffearing to goe beyond the plantation, I kept Running in
 the path; then passing through James Ryuer I said in my
 thoughts, now am I as a deare Chased . . . the wolfs. If I
 perish, what will be the Condish . . . of distressed Einglish
 men. Then finding a peec of a . . . I took it up & Caried
 it in my hand. Then finding a . . . of a Jurkin, I Caried
 them under my armc. Then said I in my God hath
 giuen me these two tookenes for my Comfort; y^t now he
 will giue me my live for a pray. Then Running down a
 hill J . . . an Einglish man Coming in the path before
 me. Then I sat down on a tree & Rising up to salute him
 said, "Mr. Hamdin,¹ I am Glad to see you aliue." He said
 "I am Glad & full of wonder to see you aliue: lett us sitt
 downe, I see you are weary." I said, "Let eate som
 parched corne." Then he said "I know the Caus
 Come . Masasoit hath sent word to the Gouvernor to let
 him () y^t Aberdikees & his Confederates have contriued
 a plot hopeing all Einglish people in on day heare
 as men hard by (ma)king Canoe . . . stay & we will goe
 wth you. Y^e next day a yong named Hugh Stacey
 went forth to fell a tree & see two rising from
 the Ground. They said Aberdikees had sent y^e

¹ Winslow's "Good News" says this was "John Hamden, a gentleman of London who then wintered with us." *Young's Winslow*, p. 314. Young conjectures that he must have come "in the Charity, which brought Weston's colony." *Note*, p. 314. He accompanied Edward Winslow, in 1623, on his visit to Massasoit.

Gouernor y^t he might send men to trucke for much Beauer, but thay would not goe, but said, "Was not ther An Einglish Come from Wesaguscus." He Answered "he came" Thay said he was thay^r ffriend, and said come and see who But they Terned another way. He said, "You come to let vs . . ." Providence to vs was great in those times as apeareth after the time of the Ariuall of the first ship at pl fornamed Masasoit Came to Plimoth & thay^r maed a co peace, for an Indian Caled Tisquantom Came to y^m & spek Einglish Thay Asked him, how he learned to speeke Einglish? He said y^t An Einglishman Caled Capt Hunt Came into the Harbor pretending to trade for beaver & stoole 24 men & thay^r beaur & Caried & Sould them in Spaine. & from thence wth much adoe he went into Eingland & ffrom Eingland wth much adoe he gott into h(is) owne Cuntry. This man tould Masasoit what wonders he had seen in Eingland & y^t if he Could make Einglish his ffreinds then Enemies y^t weare to strong for him would be Constrained to bowe to him; but being prevented by some y^t Came in y^e first ship y^t Recorded y^t wich Conserved them I leave it.

Two or 3 days after my Coming to Plimoth, 10 or 11 men¹ went in a boat to o^r plantation, but I being fanted was not able to goe wth y^m. They first gave warning to the master of the ship² & then Contrived how to make sure of the Liues of to of thay^r Cheef men, Wittiwomitt, of whom they bosted no Gun would kill, and Pexworth, a suttile man. These being slaine they fell upon others wheare thay could find y^m. Then Abordikees, hearing y^t some of his men weare killed, Came to try his manwhod, but as thay weare starting behind bushes & trees, on of y^m was shott in the Arme. At this time An Indian caled Hobermack, y^t formerly had fled for his liue from his Sacham to Plimoth, aproued himself a valient man in fiting & pshuing after them. Two of our men were killed y^t thay took in thay^r howses att An Advantage this

¹ This was a party under Captain Standish, who left Plymouth on the 25th of March, 1623. *Winslow, in Young*, p. 334. Winslow gives a detailed account of the deaths of Witwamusset and Pecksuot.

² The Swan, which remained at Wessaguscus, or Wessagusset.

Time pl weare instruments in the . . . nds of God for thay^r own liues and ours. Thay tooke the head of & sett it on thay^r ffort att Plimoth att 9 (?) of our men weare ded wth ffamine and on died in the ship before thay Came to the place whear at that Time of yeare ships Came to ffish—it being in March. At this Time ships began to ffish at y^e Islands of Sholes and I haveing Recovered a Little of my th went to my Company near about this Time the first plantation att Pascataqua the thereof was Mr. Daud Tomson at the time of my arivall (?) att Pascataqua. To of Abordikees men Came thither & seeing me said, “when we killed yo^r men thay cried and maed Il fauored ffases.” I said, “when we killed yo^r men, we did not Torment them to make ourself(?) mery.” Then we went with our ship into the bay & took from them two Shalops Loading of Corne & of thay^r men prisoners ther as a Towne of Later Time Caled Dorchester. The third and last time was in the bay of Agawam. At this Time they took for thay^r casell a thick swamp. At this time on of our ablest men was shot in the sholder.. Wether Any of them wear killed or wounded we could not tell. Ther is a Town of Later time, neare vnto y^t place Caled Ipswich. Thus plantation being deserted, Capt. Robert Gore cam the Cuntry wth six gentlemen Atending him & diuers men to doe his Labor & other men wth thay^r familys. Thay took possession of our plantation, but thay^r ship suply from Eingland Came to late. Thus was ffamine thay^r final oforthrow. Most of y^m y^t liued Reterned for Eingland. The oforseers of the third plantation in the bay was Capt. Wooliston & Mr. Rosdell. Thes seeing the Ruing of the former plantation, said, we will not pich our Tents heare, least we should doe as thay have Done. Notwithstanding these Gentlemen wear wiss men, thay seemed to blame the oforseers of the formur Companies not Considering y^t God plants & pull vp Bilds & pulls down & terns the wisdom of wiss men into foolishness. These Caled y^e name of thay^r place Mountwooliston. They Continued neare a yeare as others had don before y^m; but famin was thay^r finall aforthrow. Neare vnto y^t place is a Town of Lator Time Caled Brantry. Not long after the oferthrow of the

first plantation in the bay, Capt. Louit Cam to y^{er} Cuntry. At the Time of his being at Pascataway a Sacham or Sagamor Gaue two of his men, on to Capt. Louit & An other to Mr. Tomson, but on y^t was ther said, “How can you trust these Salvagis. Cale the nam of on Watt Tylor, & y^e other Jack Straw, after y^e names of the two greatest Rebills y^t ever weare in Eingland.” Watt Tylor said “when he was a boy Capt. Dormer found him upon an Island in great distress.”

PHINEHAS PRATT'S PETITION OF 1668.

THIS Petition is printed from a manuscript of the date of 1668, as is evident from the autograph attestation of Torrey and Pyncheon, though it is so unlike the “Declaration,” both in composition and chirography, as to make it certain that it is not in the handwriting of Pratt. R. F., Jr.

*To the Honoured the Generall Court, holden at
Boston, this Oct. 1668.*

I acknowledg my self truly thankfull unto the Honoured Court for that they gave me at the time I presented an History called, A declaration of the affaires of the English people, that first inhabited New England. Yet my necessity causeth me farther to entreat you to consider what my service hath been unto my dread Sovereign Lord King James of famous memory. I am one of that litle number, ten men that arrived in Massachusets Bay for the setling of a Plantation, & am the remainder of the forlorn hope sixty men. We bought the south part of the Bay of Aberdecest their Sachem. Ten of our company died of famine. Then said y^e Natives of the Countrey, let us kill them, whilst they are weak, or they will possesse our Countrey, & drive us away. Three times we fought with them, thirty miles I was pursued for my life, in time of frost, and snow, as a deer chased with wolves. Two of our men were kill'd in warr, one shot in the shoulder. It was not by the wit of man, nor by y^e strength of the arme of flesh, that we prevailed against them. But God, that overrules all power, put fear in their hearts. And now

seeing God hath added a New England to old Engl. and given both to our dread Sover^s Lord King Charles the second, many thousand people enjoy the peace thereof; Now in times of prosperity, I beseech you consider the day of small things; for I was almost frozen in time of our weak beginnings, and now am lame. My humble request is for that may be for my subsistence, the remaining time of my life. And I shall be obliged.

Your thankfull servant,

PHINEHAS PRATT.

The Deputyes Doe not Judge meete to graunt this petition, wth refference to the consent of o^r Hono^{ed} magis^{ts} hereto.

WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric.*

The Magistrates consent wth their bretheren the Deputyes.

JO: PYNCHON, *P^r Curiam.*

PHINEHAS PRATT'S RELATION BY INCREASE MATHER.

THIS Relation is re-printed from pp. 17—20, of "A Relation Of the Troubles which have happened in New-England, By reason of the Indians there. From the year 1614 to the year 1675. By Increase Mather." It is from the Society's copy of this rare work.

R. F., JR.

There is an old *Planter* yet living in this countrey, being one of those that were employed by Mr. *Weston*, who also hath given some account of these matters.

He doth relate, and affirm, that at his first coming into this countrey, the English were in a very distressed condition, by reason of famine, and sickness which was amongst them, whereof many were already dead; and that they buried them in the night, that the Indians might not perceive how low they were brought.

This *Relator* doth moreover declare, that an Indian *Panies*, who secretly purposed bloody destruction against the English, and made it his design to learn the English tongue, to the end he might more readily accomplish his

hellish devices, told him, that there had been a French vessel cast away upon these coasts, only they saved their lives and their goods, and that the Indians took their goods from them, and made the *Frenchmen* their servants, and that they wept very much, when the Indians parted them from one another, that they made them eat such meat as they gave their dogs. Only one of them having a good Master, he provided a Wife for him, by whom he had a Son, and lived longer than the rest of the French men did; and that one of them was wont to read much in a Book (some say it was the New-Testament) and that the Indians enquiring of him what his Book said, he told them it did intimate, that there was a people like French men that would come into the Country, and drive out the Indians, and that they were now afraid that the English were the people of whose coming the French man had foretold them. And that another ship from *France* came into the *Massachusetts Bay* with Goods to Truck, and that Indian *Panies* propounded to the Sachim, that if he would hearken to him, they would obtain all the French mens Goods for nothing, namely, by coming a multitude of them aboard the vessel, with great store of Beaver, making as if they would Truck, & that they should come without Bows and arrows, only should have knives hid in the flappets which the Indians wear about their loins, and when he should give the *watchword*, they should run their knives into the French mens bellies, which was accordingly executed by the Indians, and all the French men killed, only Mounsier *Finch* the Master of the vessel being wounded, ran down into the Hold, whereupon they promised him that if he would come up, they would not kill him, notwithstanding which, they brake their word, and murdered him also, and at last set the ship on Fire.

Some enquiring of him how long it was since the Indians first saw a ship, he replied that he could not tel, but some old Indians reported, that the first ship seemed to them to be a Floating Island, wrapped together with the roots of trees, and broken off from the Land, which with their *Canoos* they went to see, but when they found men there and heard gunns, they hasted to the shore again not a little

amazed. (Some write that they shot arrows at the first ship they saw thinking to kill it.)

This *Relator* doth also affirm, that after jealousies began between the English of Mr. *Weston's* plantation and the Indians, they built diverse of their *wigwams* at the end of a great Swamp, near to the English, that they might the more suddenly and effectually doe what was secretly contrived in their hearts: and an Indian Squaw said to them that ere long *Aberkiest* would bring many Indians that would kill all the English there and at *Patuxet*. After which the *Sachim* with a company of his men came armed towards them, and bringing them within the Pale of the English Plantation, he made a speech to the English with great gravity saying, "When you first came into this land, I was your friend, we gave gifts to one another. I let you have land as much as we agreed for, and now I would know of you if I or my men have done you any wrong." Unto whom the English replied, that they desired, that he would first declare whether they had injured him.

The *Sachim* roundly rejoined, that either some or all of them had been abusive to him; for they had stolen away his corn, and though he had given them notice of it times without number, yet there was no satisfaction nor reformation attained.

Hereupon, the English took the principal *Thief* and bound him and delivered him to the *Sachim*, withall declaring, that he might do with him what he pleased. Nay (said he) *Sachims* do justice themselves upon their own men, and let their neighbours do justice upon theirs, otherwise we conclude that they are all agreed, and then fight.

Now the Indians some of them began to tremble, and beholding the Guns which were mounted on the English Fort, they said one to another (in their Language) that little guns would shoot through houses, and great guns would break down trees, and make them fall and kill Indians round about. So did they depart at that time dissatisfied and enraged.

The English now perceiving that the Indians were fully purposed to be revenged on them, they resolved to fight it out to the last man.

As they were marching out of the Fort, seven or eight

men stood stil, saying, this is the second time that the Salvages had demanded the life of him that had wronged them, and therefore they would have him first put to death, and if that would not satisfy, then to fight it out to the last, wherefore he was put to death in the sight of the Heathen; after which the English marched out towards them, but they dispersed themselves into the woods.

This *Relator* endeavoured to give notice to them in *Plymouth*, how that the Indians had contrived their ruin, but he missed his way between *Weymouth* and *Plymouth*; and it was wel he did so; for by that means, he escaped the savage hands of those Indians, who immediately pursued him, with a murderous intention. Ere he could reach *Plymouth*, they were informed by *Massasoit* (as hath been declared) concerning what was plotted amongst the Indians.

Finally there were (as this *Relator* testifieth) three several skirmishes with the Indians. One at *Wesegusquaset*, before mentioned; another at a place where the town of *Dorchester* is since planted; and lastly at the Bay of *Agawam* or *Ipswich*, in all which engagements, the Indians were notably beaten, and the English received no considerable damage, so that the Sachims entreated for peace, nor were the English, (provided it might be upon terms safe and honourable) averse thereunto, *Pacem te poscimus omnes*.

A MEMOIR OF NATHANIEL MORTON DAVIS.

BY NAHUM MITCHELL.

THE late Hon. NATHANIEL MORTON DAVIS, was born at Plymouth, March 3, 1785. He was son of the late Hon. William Davis, well known as an intelligent and successful merchant. His grandfather, Thomas Davis, was born in Edenton, North Carolina, and came in his youth and settled in Plymouth. By skill and industry in mercantile pursuits, he acquired a good estate, and left a family of six sons, all of whom became highly useful, and some quite distinguished members of society. The Ancestor of the family, Thomas, father of Thomas of North Carolina, lived in Albany, New York, there married Catharine Wendell, and thence removed to North Carolina.

Nathaniel Morton, the subject of this notice, inherited much of the blood of the Pilgrims. He was descended, on his mother's side, from George Morton, who arrived in the Ship Ann, 1623, the supposed publisher of Mourt's Relation. George Morton's wife was Julian Bradford, sister of Governor Bradford, and among their children were Nathaniel, Ephraim, and Patience. From each of these Nathaniel Morton Davis was descended, and derived his Christian name from Nathaniel, who was the distinguished author of the New England Memorial, and Secretary of the Colony. The Secretary's eldest daughter, Remember, married Abraham Jackson, whose great-grand-daughter, Rebecca Jackson, married Nathaniel Morton, great-grand-son of Ephraim Morton, and their daughter Rebecca was the mother of the subject of this article. Mr. Davis reckoned among his ancestors no less than six of the name of

Nathaniel, so great was the respect entertained by the posterity of the Secretary, for his name and fame.

Patience, daughter of George Morton, married John Faunce, father of the distinguished Elder Thomas Faunce, whose grand-daughter Mary, married Nathaniel, son of Dea. Ephraim Morton, and their grandson Nathaniel, married Rebecca Jackson, as before stated.

Mr. Davis was descended by the seventh generation from Governor Bradford; and by the sixth generation from Thomas Clark, who came in the *Ann*, 1623, and has been thought to have been the mate of the *May Flower*.

Mr. Davis was prepared for college by Dr. Sanger, at Bridgewater, and entered at Cambridge in 1800, where he graduated, in good standing, in 1804. He afterwards studied law with Judge Parsons, then an eminent counsellor in Boston, was admitted to practice, and settled in his native town. His fine powers of mind, and the respect and confidence, which his integrity of character inspired, would have raised him to eminence in his profession, or in public life, had necessity compelled him to exertion. But he was not ambitious of professional or political distinction. He lived, therefore, the quiet and retired life of a country gentleman. He discharged with great credit such trusts and public duties as were from time to time imposed upon him. He was Chief Justice of the old Court of Sessions, a member of each branch of the Legislature, and for several years one of the Executive Council. He was President of Plymouth Bank, of the Plymouth County Agricultural Society, and of the Pilgrim Society at Plymouth.

Mr. Davis possessed a clear and sound judgment, and his acquaintance with men was extensive and thorough. His colloquial powers were of a high order, and he was a most agreeable companion, and a welcome guest to all his friends.

Connected as he was with so many of the Pilgrims, and living on the spot consecrated by their remains, he was early led to turn his attention to their history, with which he became familiarly acquainted. His taste for these pursuits was much encouraged by his intercourse with his uncles, Samuel Davis and Judge Davis, well known for

their antiquarian knowledge and researches. He imbibed much of Samuel Davis's interest in the local history of Plymouth, and there was no one, probably, so well versed in this matter as he was. His acquaintance with Old Colony genealogy, was also very accurate and extensive.

He was elected a member of this Society, July 30, 1840, and died at Boston, July 29, 1849, while engaged there in the settlement of the estate of Judge Davis, of whose will he was Executor.

MEMOIR OF ABBOTT LAWRENCE.

AT a stated meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, on the 13th day of March, 1856, after the formal business of the morning had been transacted, the following Memoir of their late associate member, the Hon. ABBOTT LAWRENCE, was presented, agreeably to a previous appointment of the Society, by the Hon. Nathan Appleton, and, having been read by him, was referred to the Committee of Publication, for the purpose of being printed.

THE duty of preparing a memoir of ABBOTT LAWRENCE for the Massachusetts Historical Society, agreeably to their appointment, is undertaken as a sad, but pleasing labor of love, by one who, during a large part of his life, was not only engaged in similar pursuits, but was on terms of the greatest personal intimacy with him.

Mr. Lawrence was by profession a merchant—a profession which is not often associated with the higher exhibitions of intellect. It is true it is often accompanied with great wealth, and wealth alone carries with it power, and a certain degree of distinction.

The merchant is at the head of the numerous family who live by trade—in the distribution, on a smaller or larger scale, of the commodities which supply the wants and fancies of life. The whole family is actuated immediately and directly by the selfish principle, in its application to property. The sole object of trade is profit—gain to the trader. Other occupations and professions, whilst tied down by the common necessity of providing for the wants of life, are associated with other aims which command the higher places in the world's estimation.

Notwithstanding the eloquent expostulations of the friends of peace, the world continues to assign the foremost rank to the successful warrior, who fights for glory

as well as patriotism. A Napoleon or a Wellington always commands the applause of his day and generation. Even Washington won his glory as a warrior before he was known as the statesman. In the learned professions—in the various departments of science—and in the higher walks of art, it is the love of fame which is the spur to excellence, rather than any pecuniary acquisition. The same principle will apply, in a considerable degree, to the mechanic arts. It is true that some modification of the selfish principle may be said to lie at the root of all human action, but nowhere is it so naked and undisguised as in the profession of the merchant, whose direct and avowed object is the getting of gain. At the same time, the world has always given honor to merchants. We are told in Holy Writ, that “the traffickers of Tyre were the honorable of the Earth,” and the same character has been freely bestowed in all succeeding ages. It is to be taken for granted, however, that it has always been the use made of the wealth acquired in trade, which has been the object of commendation and honor, rather than the success in its accumulation.

The merchant makes no claim to benevolence or patriotism as his ruling motive in trade: all he professes is absolute and undeviating justice. The morals of trade are of the strictest and purest character. It is not an uncommon opinion that there is a laxity in the mercantile code, which looks with indulgence on what are called the tricks of trade. It is not so. Whilst the direct object of all trade is gain, individual benefit, not the slightest prevarication or deviation from truth is allowable. There is no class of men with whom the Christian rule of doing to others what we expect or require in return, is more strictly demanded, than amongst merchants. Mercantile honor is as delicate and fragile as that of a woman. It will not bear the slightest stain. The man in trade who has been found to equivocate or falter in his course, becomes a marked man. He is avoided. It is thus found, by experience, that integrity is almost as uniformly the accompaniment of success, as it always is of character. It is true, that in the manifold operations of trade, there are opportunities and temptations to acts of dishonesty, more frequent than in other occupa-

tions, and it is not to be denied that, in many instances, poor human nature is found to yield to them. What we insist on, is the rigidity of the rule which controls the action of the honorable merchant, and under which alone he can claim that name.

But whilst the selfish principle lies at the foundation of trade, there is no reason why the trader himself should not be active in benevolence and all the Christian virtues. There is no occupation which has a tendency to liberalize the mind more than that of the merchant. His intercourse is wide with men of all opinions and of all countries. He perceives that integrity, virtue, and honor, are not confined to a narrow circle, or to one country. We accordingly find a full proportion of men engaged in trade among the patrons and managers of our charitable and benevolent institutions. They are also amongst the most liberal supporters of enterprises undertaken for the public good. It is perhaps natural that men accumulating their own fortunes, should have less hesitation in adventuring property in new enterprises, than those holding property by inheritance. The fact appears to be so. These general views of the mercantile profession may serve as an appropriate introduction to the life of one who was so eminent an ornament of that profession, and whose whole career was an illustration of the integrity, liberality, and public spirit, which are indispensable elements in the character of the great and good merchant.

ABBOTT LAWRENCE was born in the town of Groton, Massachusetts, December 16th, 1792. He was the fifth son of Deacon Samuel Lawrence, a respectable farmer, who did good service as a soldier during the revolutionary war, in which he rose to the rank of major, and was highly esteemed by his fellow-citizens. The ancestor, John Lawrence, one of the early Puritan emigrants, settled at Watertown in 1635, and removed to Groton in 1660. He came from Wissett, in Suffolk, where, and in the neighboring parish of Rumburg, the family had been long settled. It was of great antiquity, Sir Robert Lawrence having been knighted by Richard Cœur de Lion, in 1191, for his bravery in scaling the walls of Acre. The early education of the

subject of this memoir was at the district school during the winter, and for a few months at the Academy which now bears his name. This was the narrow foundation on which he himself added the superstructure which has carried him successfully through the various places which he was destined to fill. With this, the common outfit of every New England boy, he came to Boston, in 1808, as an apprentice to his brother Amos, who was already established in business, and who thus speaks of him in his diary: "In 1808 he came to me, as my apprentice, bringing his bundle under his arm, with less than three dollars in his pocket, and this was his fortune. A first-rate business lad he was, but, like other bright lads, needed the careful eye of a senior to guard him from the pit-falls that he was exposed to." He is reported to have been most assiduous and diligent in his duties, and to have devoted his evenings to supply the deficiencies of his early education. The business of the elder brother was prosperous, and when Abbott came of age, in 1814, a copartnership was formed between them, which continued until terminated by death. Their business was the importation and sale of foreign manufactures, in which the firm stood at the head of that class of merchants—and by their industry and enterprise acquired a large fortune. Under the tariffs of 1816 and 1824, the manufacture of cottons and woollens was extensively introduced, and the house of A. & A. Lawrence entered largely into their sales on commission. It was not until the year 1830, that they became interested in the cotton mills at Lowell.

On the establishment of the Suffolk, Tremont, and Lawrence Companies, as well as subsequently in other Corporations, they became large proprietors. From this time, their business, as selling agents, was on the most extensive scale, and their income from all sources large in proportion. As a man of business, Mr. Lawrence possessed talents of the very first order. Prompt, energetic, with an intuitive insight into the characters of men, with sound judgment and an openness of character which won favor on the slightest acquaintance, he acquired the confidence of the community in the highest degree. For many of the last years of his life, he was largely interested in the China

trade, the source of a good deal of profit. But his mind was not confined to the numerous details and ramifications of his business, extensive as it was. He took a deep interest in all matters of public concern, in politics, political economy, finance. He was amongst the most zealous advocates of the protective system, before he was himself interested in manufactures, and was one of the delegates from Massachusetts to Harrisburg, in 1827, where he took an active part in the deliberations of that assembly. In 1834, he was elected a member of the twenty-fourth Congress, for the district of Suffolk. He was placed at once on the Committee of Ways and Means, where his acquaintance with mercantile affairs gave him much deserved influence. He won the favor of all parties, by his general intelligence, and by his genial and affable manners. Without making set speeches for display, he spoke well, on proper occasions, on the matters of business before Congress. He declined a re-election at the end of the term, but in 1839, in consequence of a vacancy, he was with difficulty persuaded to allow himself to be a candidate for the twenty-sixth Congress, to which he was triumphantly elected. His usefulness in this position was, however, soon brought to a close, by a severe attack of fever, in March, 1840, on his recovery from which, he considered it necessary to resign the office.

In 1842, he was appointed, on the part of Massachusetts, a Commissioner on the subject of the Northeastern Boundary, which had become a most dangerous and difficult question, intrusted on the part of the British Government to Lord Ashburton. It is the belief of the writer, who was then in Congress and in daily confidential communication with him, that to Mr. Lawrence, more than to any other individual, is due the successful accomplishment of the negotiation, which resulted in the important treaty of Washington. Lord Ashburton was himself a merchant, of an open, straight-forward character. He had accepted the office of Ambassador with the especial purpose of settling this vexed question. Mr. Lawrence accepted the office of Commissioner with much the same feeling. They were both of opinion that any terms of settlement which involved no sacrifice of honor, were better than that this portentous

question should remain unsettled, liable at any moment to break out into a regular war. They soon came to an understanding with each other. Lord Ashburton communicated freely to Mr. Lawrence the utmost limits to which his instructions would allow him to go, and Mr. Lawrence was thus enabled to bring his somewhat intractable colleagues to the final happy issue. He was at last, at the close of the negotiation, called in to satisfy the scruples of President Tyler, who had found a difficulty in his own mind with some of the details, which Mr. Webster, the Secretary of State, was unable to remove.

In the Presidential campaign of 1840, he took an active part in favor of the election of Gen. Harrison. In September, 1842, he was President of the Whig Convention, which nominated Henry Clay for President, on the part of Massachusetts. He was a delegate to the Whig National Convention in 1844, and, in the same year, one of the electors at large for the State. In the Presidential canvass of 1848, the name of Mr. Lawrence was prominently associated for the office of Vice-President with that of Gen. Taylor for President, and at the Convention in Philadelphia he wanted but six votes of being nominated for that office. This result was owing to the peculiar and unexpected course of some of the delegates of his own State. He was disappointed, but never allowed his equanimity to be disturbed. He had, with extreme delicacy, forbore to allow his name to be brought forward by his friends until the last moment, and he did not allow any personal feeling to affect his course. He presided at a ratification meeting, in Faneuil Hall, to sustain the nomination of Taylor and Fillmore. As a presiding officer, on this and similar occasions, he appeared to great advantage. He was, in fact, a self-made, but very successful and forcible public speaker. This was shown effectively, during this campaign, in what are called caucus speeches, in which he was always happy. He was urgently solicited, in various quarters of the country, to address his fellow-citizens, but confined himself to a few of the most important points, in which he was eminently successful.

Immediately after the inauguration of Gen. Taylor, he was summoned to Washington, and urged to take a seat in

the Cabinet. But the two highest places had been disposed of, and those which remained were not to his taste, and were declined. A higher position was soon after offered him,—that of the Representative of the United States at the Court of Great Britain. This is a station of the highest honor, which has been filled by some of the most eminent men of the country, requiring sound discretion as the necessary foundation, and in which the fullest and the most varied information upon all subjects will find ample exercise. This place, after some hesitation, he accepted, and, with Mrs. Lawrence, embarked for England in September, 1849. It is difficult to find greater contrasts in the life of any man, than those presented by his first and last visits to England—the first as a novice, confined to the operations of trade at Manchester and Leeds, and the last introducing him directly to Queen Victoria and the British Court, and giving him free intercourse with the most distinguished Statesmen of the land. This position he occupied not merely respectably, but with the highest honor, not only to himself, but to his country. He did not attempt to pass for what he was not, but his general information, especially upon matters relating to trade, commerce, and finance, caused his opinions to be sought in the highest quarters, whilst his peculiar urbanity and gracious manners made him a favorite with all with whom he came in contact. The possession of an ample fortune enabled him to support a style of hospitality more in accordance with the higher European embassies, than is usual under the somewhat niggardly allowance of our own government. All this, however, he did without overstepping the bounds of the strictest propriety and decorum. On public occasions, and at the numerous festivals which he attended, he acquitted himself in the happiest manner—and his speeches may well compare with those made by Statesmen of the highest education.

Having had an opportunity of examining copies of his diplomatic correspondence, a small portion only of which has been published, the writer has no hesitation in characterizing it as exceedingly able, both in matter and manner, and as comparing well with the best specimens of that species of composition. It is very evident that he inspired

the deepest respect in the different functionaries with whom he came in contact.

One of the first objects requiring his attention, was the project of a ship canal from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific Ocean, which had been brought forward by his predecessor, Mr. Bancroft. The assent and guarantee of both the United States and Great Britain were necessary to effect this object. An obstacle existed in the claim set up by Great Britain to the Protectorate of the Mosquito Territory, on a part of which the eastern terminus of the canal must be made. This subject was one which received his immediate attention, and, as early as December, 1849, he obtained from Lord Palmerston a disavowal, on the part of Great Britain, of any intention "to occupy or colonize Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito Coast, or any part of Central America." His mind was very much occupied with this matter, in the expectation that it would devolve on him to negotiate a treaty with the British Government. In a letter of December 14th, 1849, to Lord Palmerston, he presents a view of the important advantages to result from such a canal, and of the obstacle interposed by the claim in behalf of the Mosquito Indians as an Independent Sovereignty. In the mean time, he set himself to work in collecting information in illustration of the connection of the British Government with the Mosquito Indians, out of which their claim to certain peculiar rights as their protectors was founded. In this, he was entirely successful. He became possessed of some very important manuscript documents, which had never been published, consisting of the Vernon and Wager manuscripts, which he characterizes as "A collection embodying, in the original, official as well as private letters of the Duke of Newcastle, of Sir Charles Wager, of Admiral Vernon, of Sir William Pulteney, of Governor Trelawney, of Mr. Robert Hodgson and many others, a mass of authentic information never published, and not existing anywhere else, unless in Her Majesty's State Paper Office."

He was arranging all these matters into a legal argument and historical document, when in April, 1850, he received notice from Mr. Clayton, Secretary of State, that "these negotiations were entirely transferred to Washing-

ton, and that he was to cease altogether to press them in London." This was naturally a severe disappointment, but he at once set about changing the character of this document from a letter to Lord Palmerston, to a despatch to our own Secretary of State. It bears date 19th April, 1850. It covers eighty-five folio pages of manuscript. It discusses the question of the title of the Mosquito Indians to the sovereignty of the country claimed for them by Great Britain. It states, very clearly, the law established by the different nations of Europe in reference to their own rights, and that of the Savages inhabiting the continent and islands of America. "The Christian world have agreed in recognizing the Indians as occupants only of the lands, without a right of possession, without domain, the sovereignty being determined by priority of discovery, and occupation."

In the historical review of the question, he states that Spain established her rights on the Mosquito territory in the 15th century, which were recognized in the treaty of 1672 by Sir William Godolphin. He quotes from the documents beforementioned, abundant evidence of the tampering of the Governor of Jamaica, and of the Admiral on that station, with the Mosquitoes, during the war which broke out with Spain in 1739. The treaty of 1763, as well as that of 1783, would seem to admit the sovereignty of Spain in the fullest degree. This whole question is argued with great ability. It is unfortunate that whilst this document was on its passage to Washington, a treaty was actually signed by Mr. Clayton and Sir Henry L. Bulwer, out of which a serious misunderstanding has arisen. This could hardly have happened, had this document been communicated to the British Government, as the American view of the question.

Mr. Lawrence's own view of the subject was, "that whenever the history of the conduct of Great Britain shall be published to the world, it will not stand one hour before the bar of public opinion without universal condemnation."¹

A question was left unsettled by Mr. Bancroft, in rela-

¹ This document was published on a call from the Senate, February 9th, 1853, Senate Doc. 32d Congress, 2d session, No. 27.

tion to the postal rates on the transit of letters across England, to which Mr. Lawrence devoted a good deal of time. Not being able to induce the Postmaster-General to adopt rates more reasonable than the existing ones, he recommended to our Government to give notice to annul the convention of 1848, as they had a right to do, as the only means of bringing about a more equitable arrangement.

Another matter which Mr. Lawrence pressed upon the British Government with earnestness and ability, was the injustice of her light-house system, by which foreign tonnage is taxed to support sinecure offices, whilst our own light-houses are free to all the world, without any tax whatever. These despatches, which were never satisfactorily answered, were made public by vote of the House of Commons on motion of Mr. Hume.

A delicate but spirited correspondence took place between Mr. Lawrence and Lord Granville in relation to the outrage committed by H. M. ship *Express* on the steamer *Prometheus*, for which an ample apology was made.

In August, 1852, England was thrown into intense excitement, in consequence of a letter written by Mr. Webster on the subject of the new ground taken by Great Britain in reference to the fisheries. This led to several interviews between Mr. Lawrence and Lord Malmesbury, the result of which was such a modification of the instructions to the vessels on the station as prevented any collision. His attention was unremitted in reference to the very numerous private claims upon the British Government which required his care. A joint commission was afterward appointed to decide definitely upon this description of cases.

In September, 1851, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence made a tour in Ireland, of which he gives an interesting account in a dispatch under date of 2d December. They visited Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Killarney, Cork, &c. In many of these places, he was met by deputations, and received the most flattering and respectful attentions. His account of the present state of Ireland, and his remarks upon it are in the highest degree interesting and instructive.

On the whole it may be doubted whether, since the mis-

sion of Dr. Franklin, any minister of the United States has accomplished a diplomatic success greater than must be awarded to Mr. Lawrence. This was the result of his peculiar endowments, quick apprehension, sagacity, retentive memory, power of reaching the pith of a matter, tact, kindness of heart and perfect truthfulness.

His residence in London, mingling freely in society, did much in producing a change in public opinion, favorable to his own country. The writer thought he saw good evidence of this at a dinner at which he was present, given by Mr. Westhead, member of Parliament for Knaresborough, at the Clarendon Hotel, to a party of about fifty, consisting equally of English and Americans. This gentleman had met Mr. Lawrence during a visit which he made to Manchester and Liverpool, and was so much pleased with him that he requested permission to give him such a dinner, which it would have been ungracious to refuse. It was a compliment to Mr. Lawrence and his country, graced by the presence of distinguished members of the British Cabinet, and such Americans as happened to be in England. It was opened by a neat speech from Mr. Westhead, to which Mr. Lawrence replied in his happiest manner. Speeches followed by Lord Palmerston, Mr. Gladstone, Earl Powis, Mr. Cardwell, and others. They were beautiful specimens of dinner speeches; but what was particularly striking, was the amiable manner in which they tendered the right hand of fellowship to their American brothers. There seemed to be a general desire to express the feeling that brother Jonathan had proved himself a worthy chip of the old block, and was entitled to their kindest regards. There was an air of sincerity and cordiality on the occasion which could not be mistaken. Unfortunately, reporters were excluded, so that these speeches were never given to the public.

After three years' service, Mr. Lawrence obtained leave to return to his country, which he did in October, 1852. On this occasion, he was invited to a public dinner, but happening at a period when the whole community were deeply affected by the recent death of Mr. Webster, he declined it;—he arrived, in fact, barely in time to attend the funeral of that lamented statesman.

Mr. Lawrence was always ready and foremost in supporting measures which promised benefit to the public. He was a large subscriber to the various railroads projected for the concentration of trade in Boston, and this from a feeling of patriotism, rather than the expectation of profit. His subscriptions for public objects of charity or education were always on the most liberal scale; but the crowning act of this character was the establishment of the Scientific School at Cambridge, connected with Harvard College, for which he gave fifty thousand dollars in 1847, and left a further like sum by his will. His letter to Mr. Eliot, the treasurer of the College, accompanying the donation, was a proof how completely his mind was imbued with the subject, and how fully and accurately he had investigated it. This institution supplied a great want in our system of education, in the application of science to the arts. He left a further sum of fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting model lodging houses, the income of the rents to be forever applied to certain public charities. He received, in 1854, the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Harvard College, and also from that of Williams.

Viewing his character phrenologically, it was the symmetry and beauty of the whole organization which constituted its excellence, without the peculiar prominence or exaggeration of particular organs which give the highest power of genius in their manifestation. In other words, his intellectual and moral powers were in due and admirable proportion—with no deficiency and with no excess. In his person, he was at the same time commanding and prepossessing, with a suavity and air of benevolence and sincerity which indicated the perfect gentleman.

In his social relations he was eminently happy. Early in life, he married Katharine, the daughter of the Hon. Timothy Bigelow, long known and distinguished as the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts. She aided in his labors with devoted fidelity, and shared in his honors with becoming dignity. He lived to see a numerous family of children well married, and settled in life. His eldest son married the daughter of the eminent historian, Prescott.

In June, 1855, he was attacked with alarming symptoms

of disease. These continued to increase, and his life was brought to a close on the 18th day of August, in the sixty-third year of his age. He was, in principle and practice, during life, a sincere and pious Christian. He met death as becomes a Christian to die. At this comparatively early age, with every thing about him calculated to make the close of life a period of calm and tranquil enjoyment, in the consciousness of a life well spent, he resigned his spirit to the God who gave it, without a murmur or expression of anything but gratitude for the blessings he had experienced.

There was no circumstance of his life more remarkable than the demonstration of public feeling during his sickness, and after his death. During the last few lingering days of his life, there seemed to be but one topic on the public mind. Was there any hope? Is he to die? Seldom has the death of an individual, holding no public office, called forth such an expression of deep feeling. Faneuil Hall, on a short notice, was spontaneously crowded by our citizens, in order to give vent to their grief. Speeches were made by several of our most distinguished men. It was the loss of a friend, of a general benefactor, of a good man, which called forth this universal expression of sorrow. The Government of Harvard College, and a great number of Societies held special meetings, and adopted resolutions to attend his funeral. The Rev. Dr. Lothrop, his pastor, in a funeral discourse did justice to his religious character. He says: "The benevolence of Mr. Lawrence, and all the virtues of his life, had their strong foundation and constant nourishment in religious faith. He believed in his heart, on the Lord Jesus Christ, and received him as the promised Messiah and Saviour of the World. He was truly catholic in his feelings, loving all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth; and extended the helping hand of his charities to the enterprises of various Christian denominations."

Mr. Lawrence's connection with our own Society was brief, his election having taken place in December, 1853; but he entered deeply into the spirit of our pursuits, and contemplated making some valuable contributions to our archives. His name will be always cherished as one of the most distinguished upon our rolls.

MEMOIR OF WILLIAM PARSONS LUNT, D. D.

BY NATHANIEL L. FROTHINGHAM, D. D.

REV. WILLIAM PARSONS LUNT, D. D., the Corresponding Secretary of this Society, left home on the last day of the year 1856, to travel in the East. It had always been a favorite wish of his life to visit the lands made sacred by the Scripture histories ; to see the Nile and Egypt, to cross the desert, and go up to Jerusalem. This long cherished religious desire he proposed now to fulfill. But it was only the smaller part of his vow that was granted.

Soon after his arrival at Sinai, he began to be ill. He did not venture to encounter the giddiness he would be exposed to in ascending the mountain with his companions. The next day his malady grew serious. He was carried, in the gentlest way that circumstances allowed, to Akabàh, a small place that lay distant three or four days of slow travel, on the Eastern estuary at the head of the Red Sea. The second night there, was his last on earth. After a short delirium, he fell into a deep sleep which was never broken. Thus, at that ancient haven of Ezion-Geber, he struck the sail of his modest life, and gave back a thoughtful soul to God. The next morning, March 21, 1857, his body was buried, with all decent religious ceremonies, in the sands of the wilderness.

His friend, Rev. Dr. Chandler Robbins, the Recording Secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society, has given so faithful an account of his life and character, in a volume already in its library, that he has left little more to be said ; and has removed the regret which would otherwise have been felt in the necessity of confining the present notice to a very few pages.

Mr. Lunt was born in Newburyport, April 21, 1805, the son of Henry and Mary Green (Pearson) Lunt. His American ancestor, on the father's side, belonged to Newbury, in the County of Berkshire, England; and came from London to New England in 1633. His grandfather was the Henry Lunt, a favorite officer of Commodore Paul Jones, who fought under that Commander in the Bonhomme Richard, and assisted at the capture of the Serapis, and throughout the Revolutionary war was actively engaged in the service of his country. Naturally of a thoughtful spirit and reserved manners, William passed an unblemished youth more among books than pleasures. He was fitted for college at Milton Academy, and entered Harvard University in 1819, graduating with distinction in 1823. The following year found him at Plymouth engaged in teaching a school; and from thence he came to Boston and began the study of the law. It was soon evident, however, that the legal profession was not that which suited best the character of his mind, his tastes, habits and aspirations. He gave up his law books after a short trial, and joined the Theological School at Cambridge, in 1825. While a member of it, he officiated for a time at the University as a teacher in mathematics. Before he had completed his course of study, he had attracted so much attention and given such high promise, that he received an invitation to assume the ministry over the Second Congregational Unitarian Society in the city of New York, who had built their church and were awaiting their first pastor. He was ordained there, June 19, 1828. That sphere of clerical duty was a peculiarly oppressive one to so young a man, of shrinking modesty and a nervous temperament. He labored faithfully, but with an uneven success, till November, 1833, when he asked and obtained leave to be released from his pastoral charge. Such high gifts, however, as he possessed for his sacred office, in his earnest mind, devout spirit, polished pen, and eloquent utterance, could not long permit him to float at large among the churches. On the 3d of June, 1835, he was installed at Quincy with the usual solemn services as colleague pastor with Rev. Peter Whitney, now become an old man. As the minister of the church in Quincy he finished his

course. He preached his parting Sermon to the people there on the 28th of December, 1856, and then went from them and from his house, to be seen of them no more.

This most imperfect outline of an uneventful life will give, of itself, some just idea of the character and qualities of the man. Dr. Lunt's devoted and pure mind was of a pensive cast, tending to deep shadow sometimes; rather contemplative than diligent, and not always kept up to the full tone of its best faculties. He was diffident till he was roused and excited; capable of more than he performed; and contented with a persevering silence in the company of others, that was in singular contrast with his fine powers of speech. And yet his time was never frittered away in indolence or the least frivolity; and the vigorous applications of his thought, though to some persons they might appear fitful, were frequent enough to accomplish a large amount, and his whole share, of useful labor. If his talent was not remarkable for versatility, and did not care to travel far beyond the soberest lines of a profession that tasked it to the uttermost, it yet went out with a marked preference and commendable success into the three different departments of philosophy, history and poetry. His philosophic turn was specially indicated in a Sermon preached at Jamaica Plain, in 1843, on occasion of the Installation of Rev. George Whitney, which took for its theme the Necessity of a Religious Philosophy; in his Address to the Alumni of the Theological School at Cambridge in 1852; and above all in his able Dudleian Lecture, pronounced in 1855. His interest in historical researches, particularly those relating to New England, is sufficiently manifest from the duty of writing this brief memoir of him, and from the position which he held among the officers of this Society. The two discourses which he delivered on the 200th Anniversary of the First Congregational Church in Quincy, are really models in that kind of composition, whether we consider their faithfulness of historic research, the breadth of their religious views, or their rhetorical beauty. His poetical tastes and capabilities were displayed in several occasional pieces that were received with marked approbation, and in a spiritual poem called "Psyche," delivered before the Phi Beta Kappa Society in 1837. His Collec-

tion of Psalms and Hymns, published in 1841 under the title of the Christian Psalter, though too purely old-fashioned to satisfy modern cravings, is perhaps inferior to no Hymn Book that preceded or has followed it, in point either of excellence or serviceableness.

In theology, Dr. Lunt stood far on the right wing, though not on the extreme right, of the Unitarian denomination. Reverence for antiquity and established belief, for the early church and the sacred associations of the past, wrought strongly within him. He loved to hold fast, so far as he could, to the language of Scripture, and to the doctrine liberally interpreted which had come down from the fathers. He was more ready to accept, than anxious to define, hallowed phrases. While he was open to new light, he was jealous of innovations. He shrank from all approach to the subversive speculations of the newest criticism. While he repelled with every power of his intellect, every instinct of his conscience, every throb of his heart, the dogmas of Calvinistic divinity, yet his puritan soul leaned back, as far as it dared, towards ancient formulas. The abstruse conceptions, that had entered into the gospel and the church from Greece and Alexandria, had a vivid importance to his mind. His preaching came from the depths of his Christian convictions, and aided by a rich voice and skillful elocution and fervid manner was at times exceedingly impressive, both attracting by its beauty and affecting by its strength. The political and reformatory movements of the day he was slow to admit into his pulpit. Controversial religion was not to his liking. The biblical neologies of our new times were an offence, if not an alarm, to him. He held the literal Word reverently dear, although he endeavored to give it an expansive scope, and sought underneath it the most spiritual significances. His parishioners were fully aware of the solid and shining gifts of their minister, and rejoiced in his professional distinction. Nothing was wanting but that, with a nature more warmly social, and dispositions more demonstrative, he could have drawn nearer to their companionship and private sympathies. But who can be or do all things? He followed the lead of the best that God had given him; if sometimes a depressed, always a faithful and true man.

One of his friends, in an unpublished poem, written a few years ago, has thrown off a sketch of him, of which the accuracy may make amends for any lack of merit in other respects, and justify the insertion of so slight a fragment into so serious a place.

A "rural bishop*" now,
With pale and furrowed brow,
Draws up his chair beside my bed.
The cloudy orb Saturn
Drips from its leaden urn
Its damps on his fine nature and clear head.

Long will he silent sit,
If no inspiring fit
Rouse him to animated speech.
His low, unfrequent laugh,
Half gay and plaintive half,
Rolls like grave Ocean toying with the beach.

But give a quickening theme,
And wake his soul from dream,
And you shall feel what magic power
Of skill'd melodious tongue,
And energies full strung,
Has Genius in its high, ascendent hour.

Rhetor and poet too,
With taste severely true,
He writes for those who can judge well ;—
But when his periods glance
With burning utterance,
Both taught and untaught feel the binding spell.

His sudden death, and the affecting manner of it—so far from his family and his many friends, and in that dreary waste—produced a profound sensation in the community, and called forth several tributes of praise and sorrow. Just as he was on the point of leaving our shores, the church in New York with which his first vows were connected sent him a request that he would sit for his portrait, that it might be preserved among them for a

* Dr. Lunt was the only minister described in these verses, whose pastorate was in the country, and not in the city of Boston.

memorial. And now in the church at Quincy, from which his light has so lately gone out, a mural tablet has been set up, facing the monuments of two illustrious Presidents of the United States, and bearing the following inscription :

IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM PARSONS LUNT, D. D.

Pastor of this Church,
Prized, Honored, Lamented.
Theologian, Poet and Scholar,
He devoted his life
To intellectual pursuits and sacred exercises.
Weighty and accomplished as a writer,
Eloquent as a Preacher,
Conservative in a liberal doctrine,
Of a grave and earnest spirit,
He loved the highest meditations,
And meditated the truest services.

Born in Newburyport, April XXI., MDCCCV.
Installed here June III., MDCCCXXXV.
He died at Ezion-Geber
On his way to Jerusalem,
March XXI., MDCCCLVII.

EVEN SO, SAITH THE SPIRIT,
FOR THEY REST.

Besides various contributions to the *Christian Examiner*,
Dr. Lunt is the author of the following publications.

- A Sermon delivered in Quincy, June 7, 1835. 2 Peter i. 12.
- A Sermon at the Ordination of H. G. O. Phipps, 1835. 1 Col. i. 28.
- A Sermon at the Installation of Rev. George Whitney, 1836.
- 1 Cor. ii. 14.
- A Christmas Sermon, 1836. Luke i. 35.
- Psyche. A Poem delivered before the Phi Beta Kappa Society in 1837.
- An Address delivered in Quincy, July 4, 1838. Moral Education.
- Two Discourses delivered September 29, 1839, on the 200th Anniversary of the First Congregational Church in Quincy.
- A Discourse delivered at the Funeral of Rev. Peter Whitney, March 7, 1843.

A Discourse preached in Quincy, November 9, 1843. Mark vii. 11.
Artillery Election Sermon. 1847.

A Discourse at the Interment of President John Quincy Adams,
March, 1848.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, October 21, 1849. Matt. xiii.
47, 48.

A Lecture before the Quincy Lyceum, February 7, 1850.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, Sept. 15, 1850. Eccles. iii. 11.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, April 10, 1851. Titus iii. 1, 2.

A Discourse delivered in Washington, Nov. 30, 1851. Titus i. 15.

An Address before the Alumni of the Cambridge Theological
School, July 20, 1852.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, Nov. 25, 1852, commemorative
of Daniel Webster.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, January 8, 1854. John v. 41.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, June 25, 1854. 1 John iv. 1.

The Dudleian Lecture for 1855.

A Discourse delivered in Quincy, June 3, 1855. "A Sheaf of
Years."

"The Last Sermon." December 28, 1856. Ps. cvii. 7.

